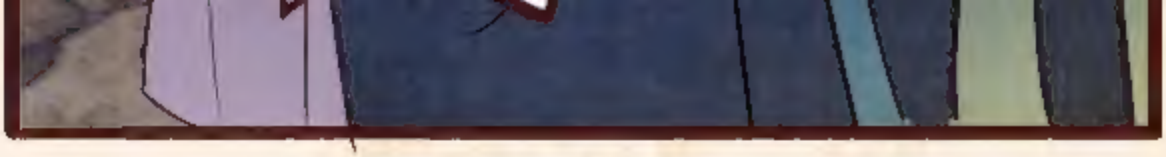
NO...NO...
STOP IT...
PRINCESS!



THAT'S PRETTY MUCH ALL I HAVE WITH REGARDS TO YOUR SISTER.

YOU CAN CHOOSE

TO BELIEVE IT OR NOT...

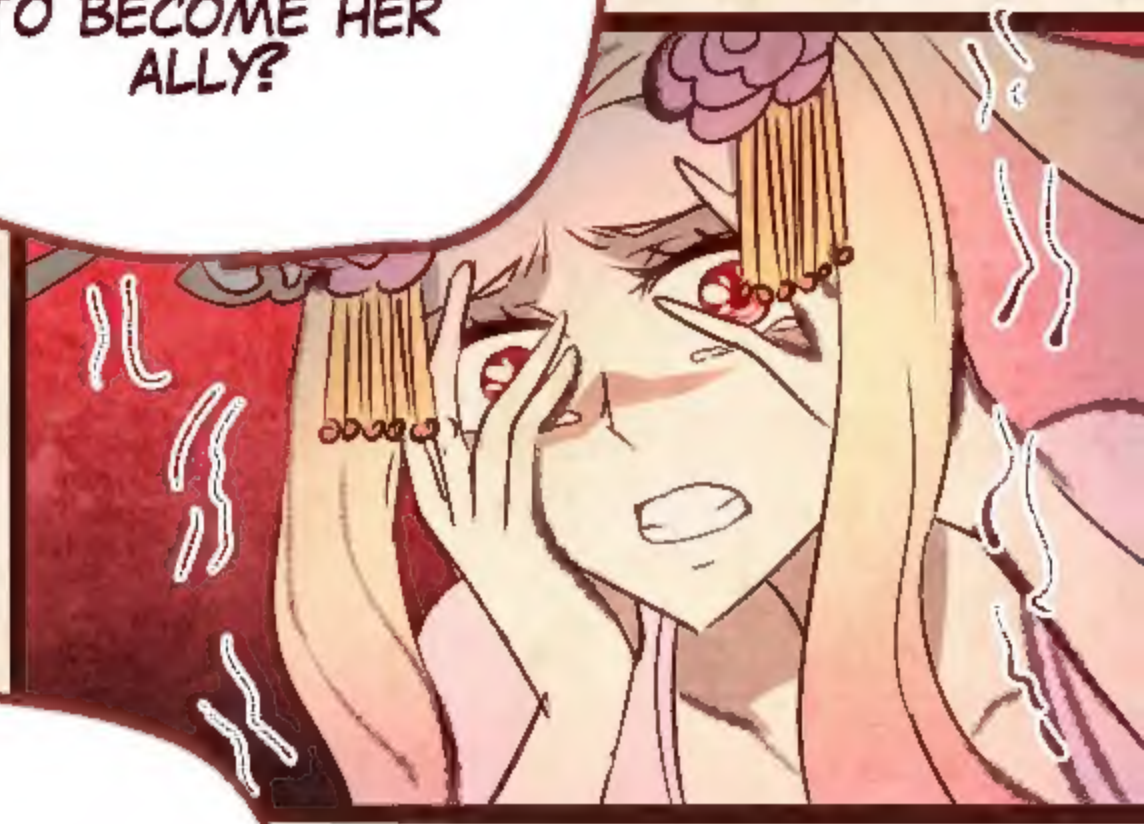
BUT RIGHT NOW, I NEED YOU, AS THE SISTER OF THE PREVIOUS EMPRESS,

TO MAKE THE BIGGEST DECISION YOU'LL EVER MAKE IN PHANTOM PARADISE.

ARE YOU TRYING TO INTIMIDATE THE PRINCESS INTO ALLYING WITH YOU?
TSK..
ALLY?

AHAHAHA, HOW ABSURD!

ME, THE NEW EMPRESS DOWAGER, BEGGING TO BECOME HER ALLY?

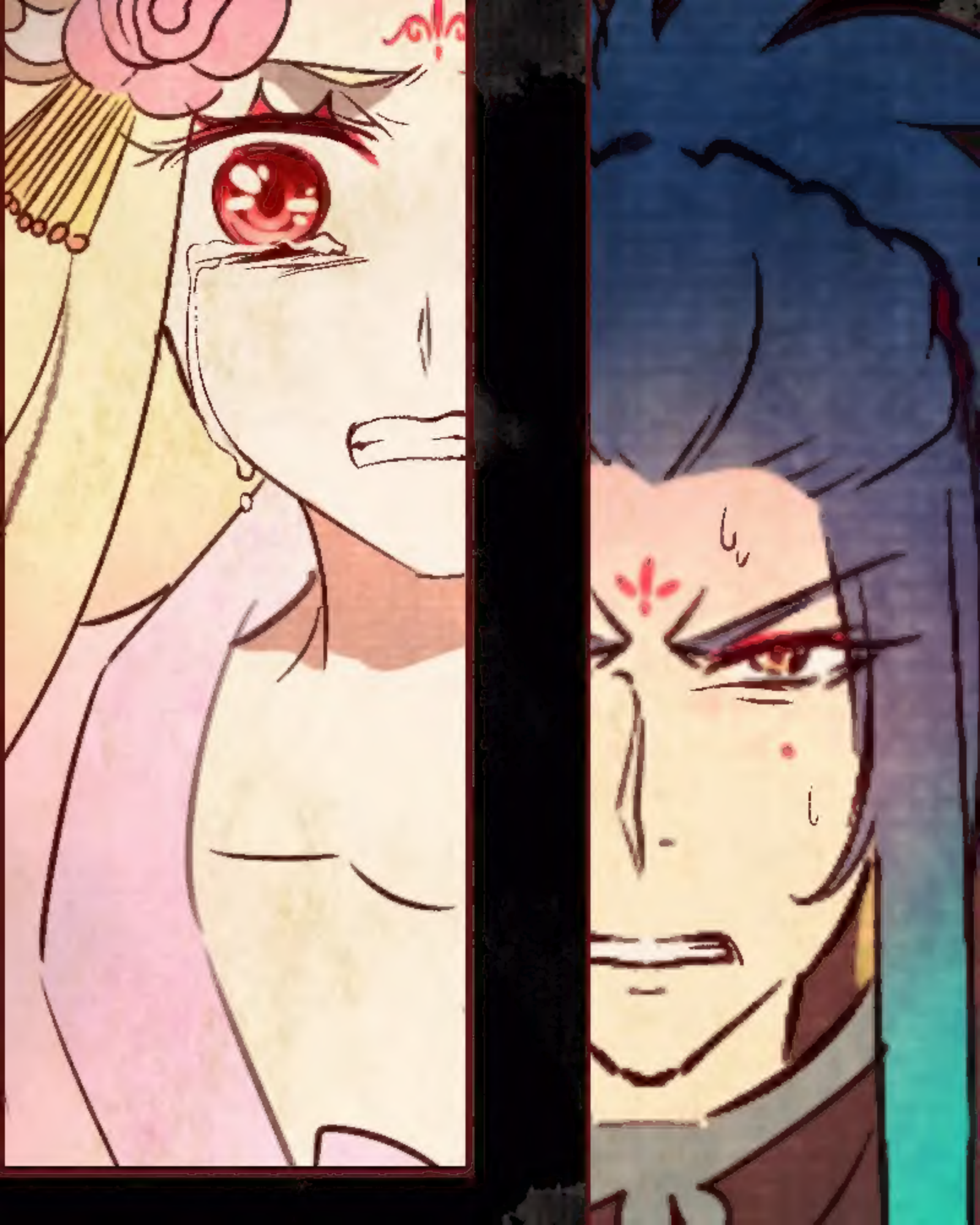


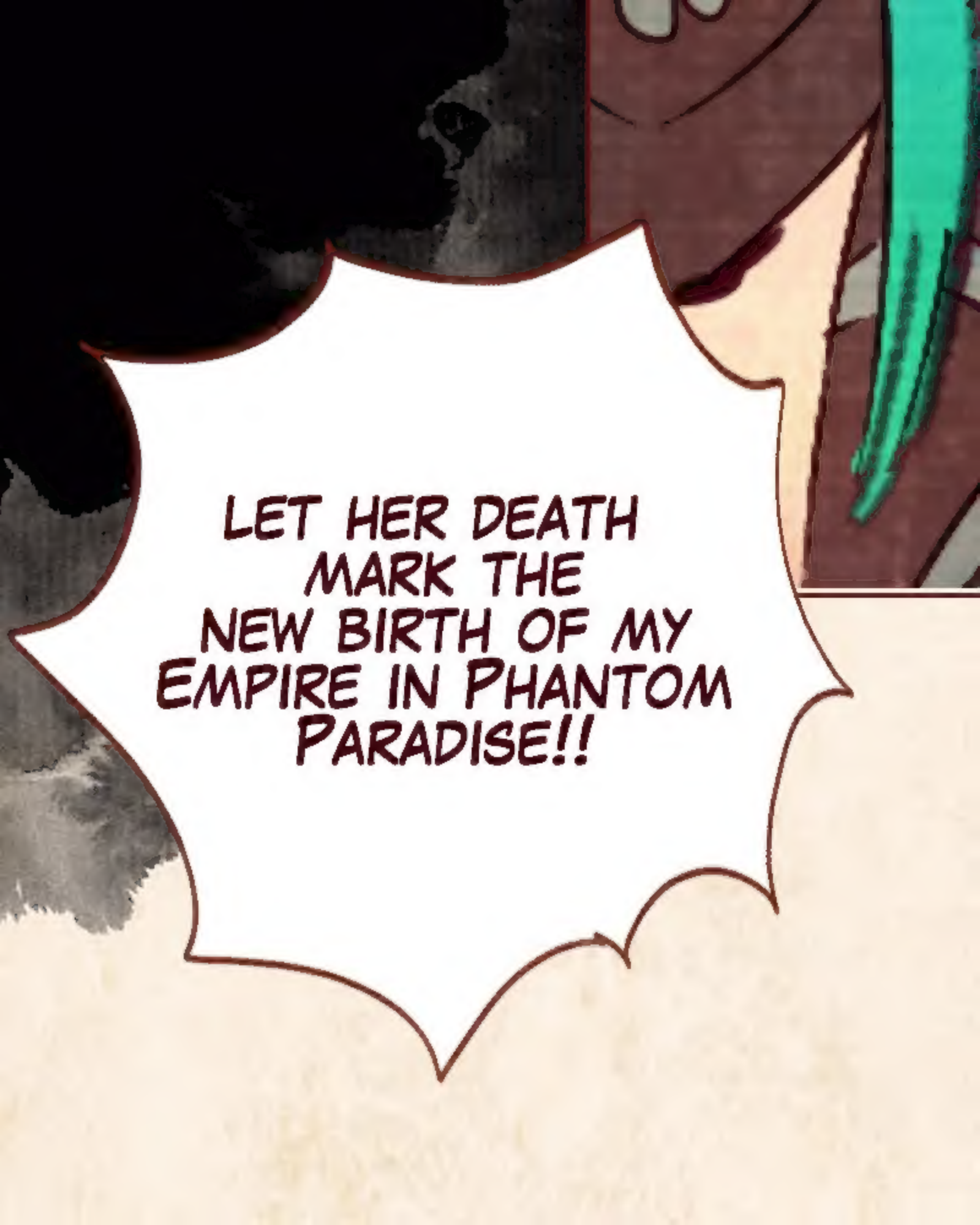
THE KNOWLEDGE SHE JUST GAINED...

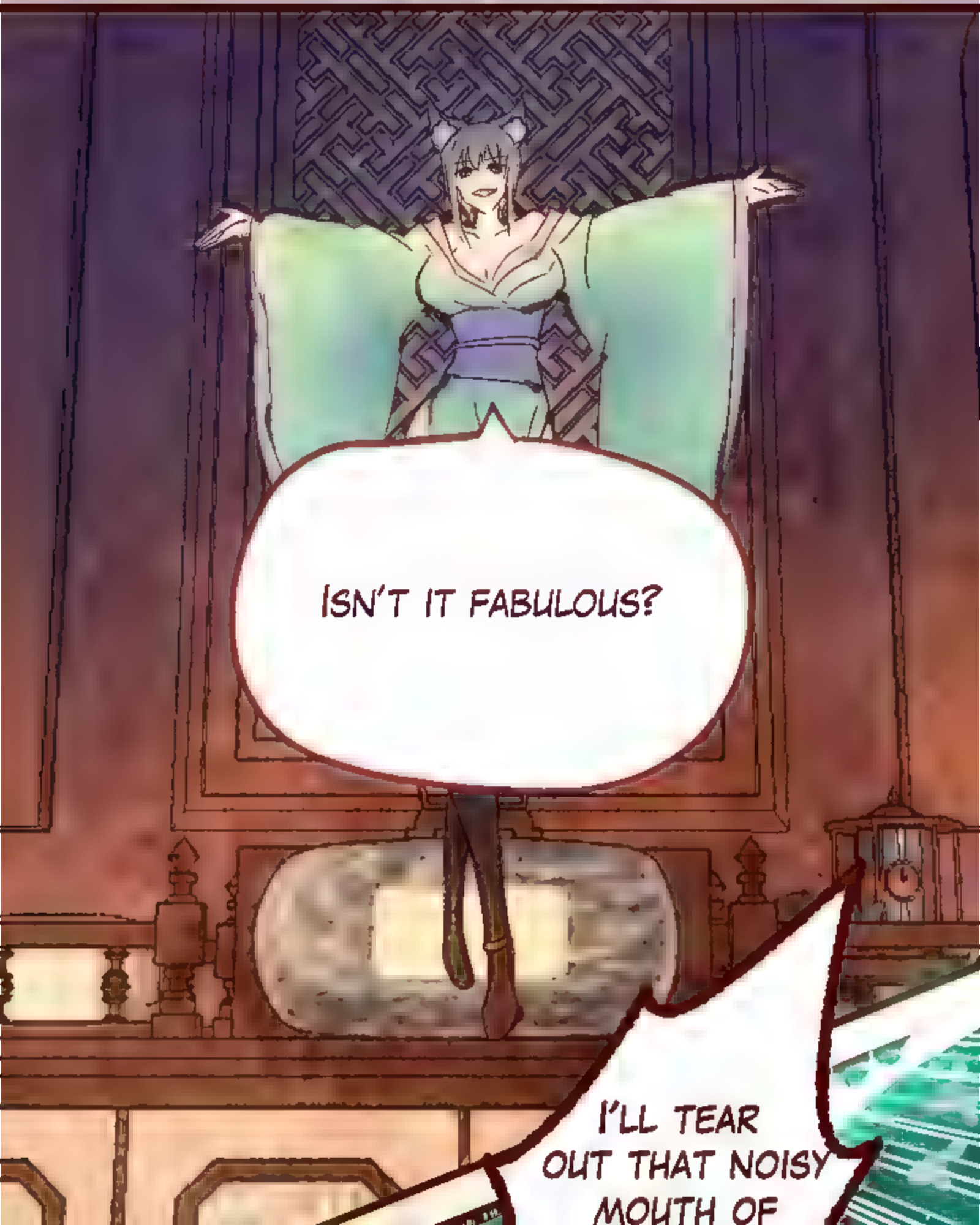
ALONG WITH HER IDENTITY AS THE SISTER OF THE PREVIOUS EMPRESS GIVING HER THE RIGHT TO CHALLENGE THE THRONE...

THE ONLY DECISION SHE'LL BE MAKING...

...WILL BE HER METHOD OF EXECUTION!




LET HER DEATH
MARK THE
NEW BIRTH OF MY
EMPIRE IN PHANTOM
PARADISE!!


ISN'T IT FABULOUS?
I'LL TEAR OUT THAT NOISY MOUTH OF

YOURS!

NO HARM WILL COME TO HER AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE!
OH MY...

GOING ALL OUT FROM THE VERY BEGGINING?

SNAP

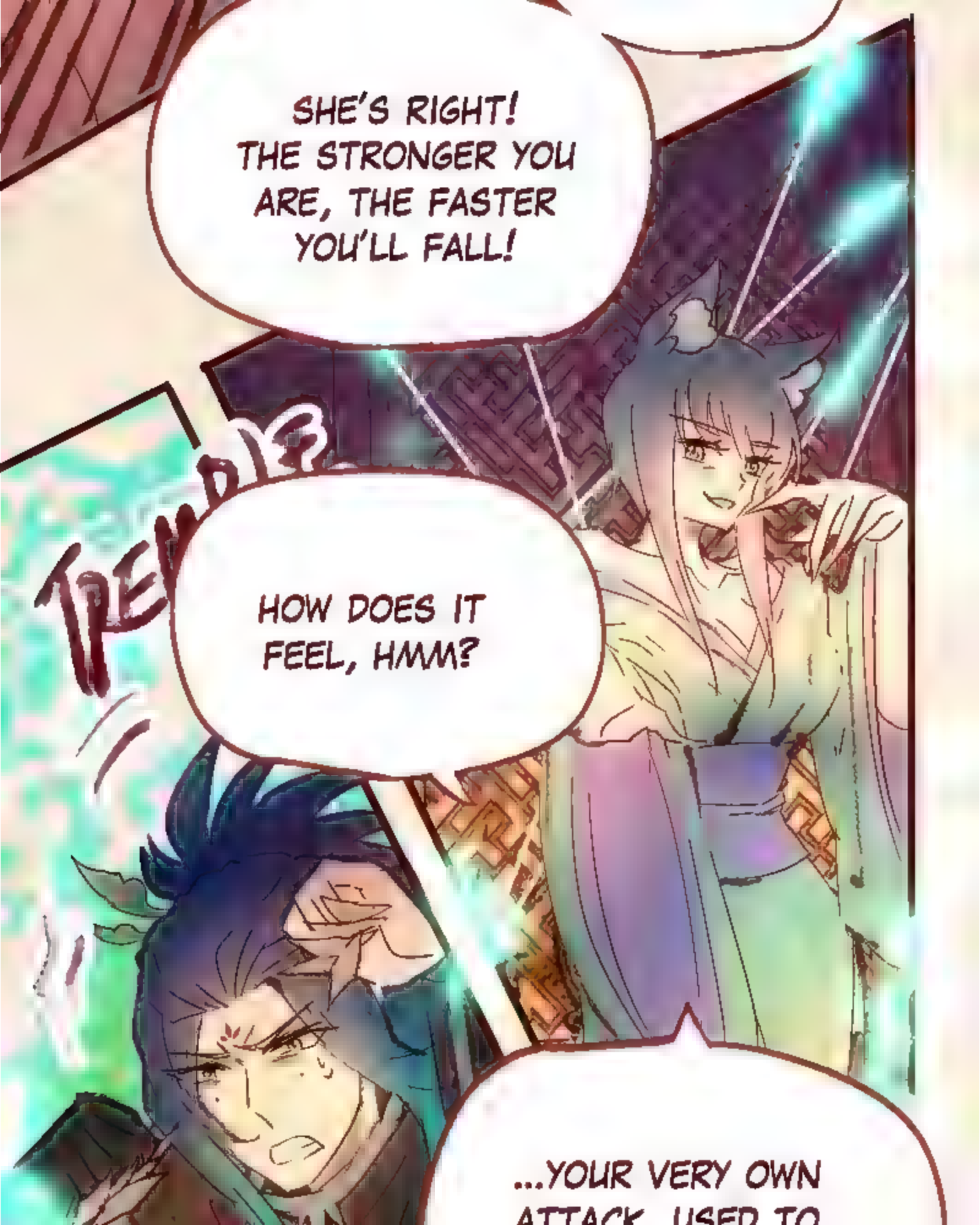
JUST WHAT I WANTED!

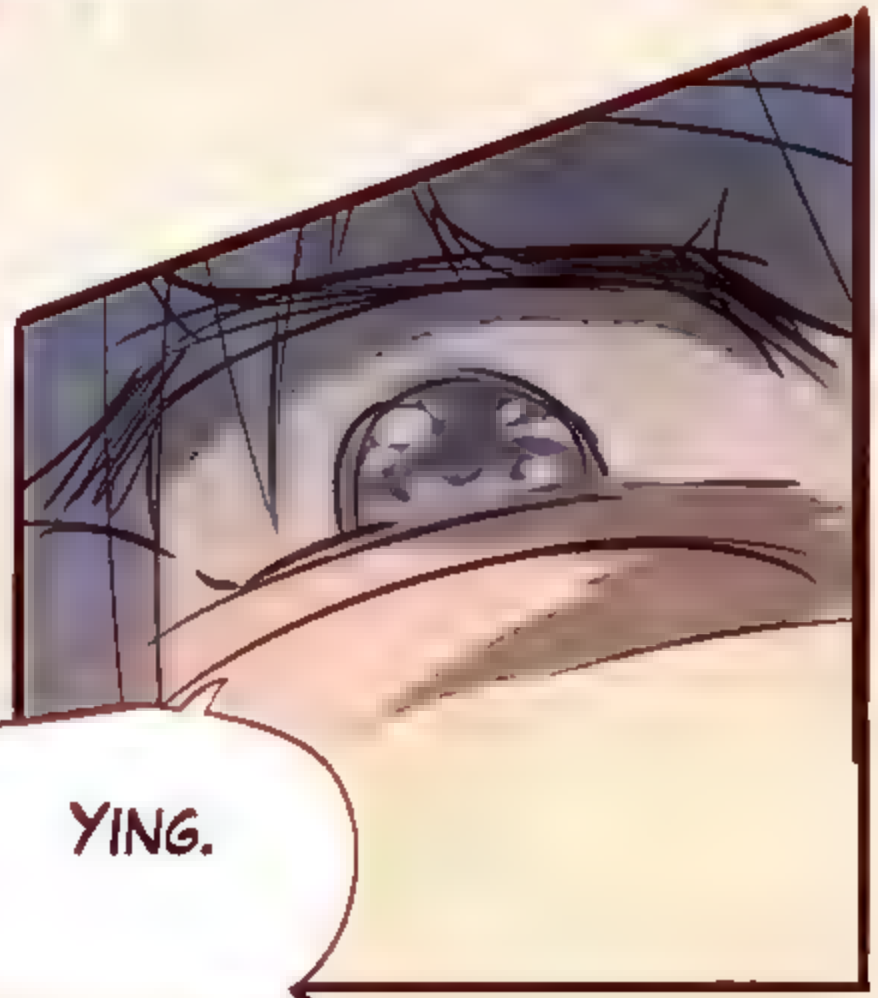
?!!
WHAT--?!!

I CAN'T CONTROL MY WEAPON--!
AND IT JUST TURNED AGAINST ME?

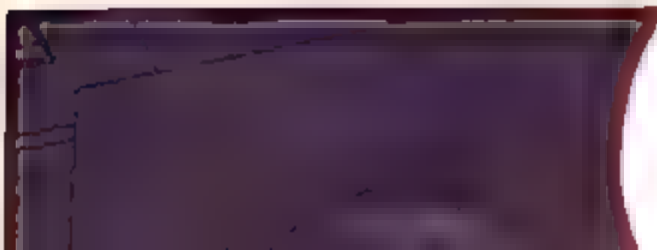
AGHHHHHH
!!!

QING-LIAN!!
SHE REFLECTED YOUR ATTACK !!!
HOW PERCEPTIVE!

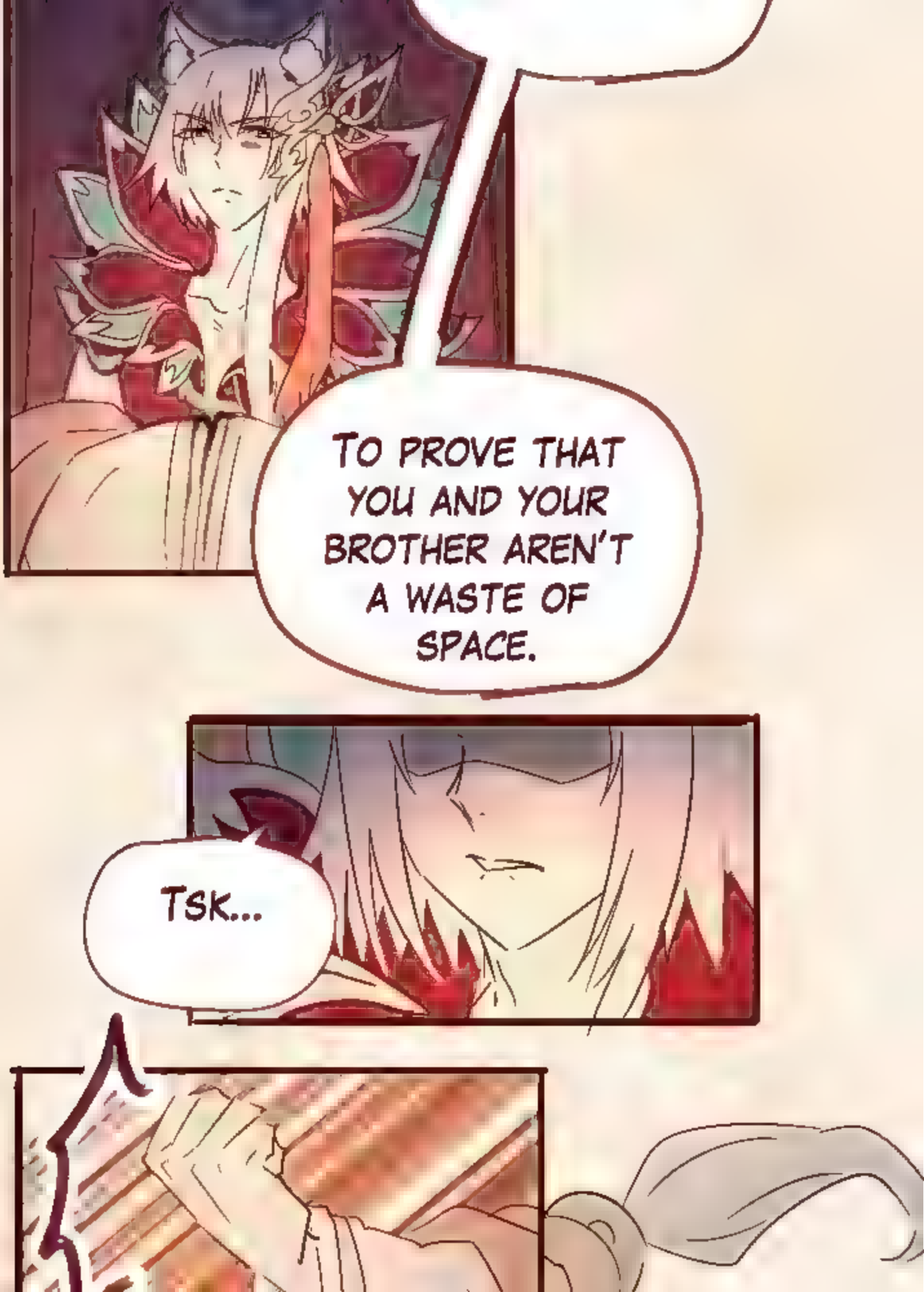

SHE'S RIGHT! THE STRONGER YOU ARE, THE FASTER YOU'LL FALL!
TEMBI?
HOW DOES IT FEEL, HMM?
...YOUR VERY OWN



YING.



NOW'S YOUR CHANCE...


TO PROVE THAT YOU AND YOUR BROTHER AREN'T A WASTE OF SPACE.
TSK...

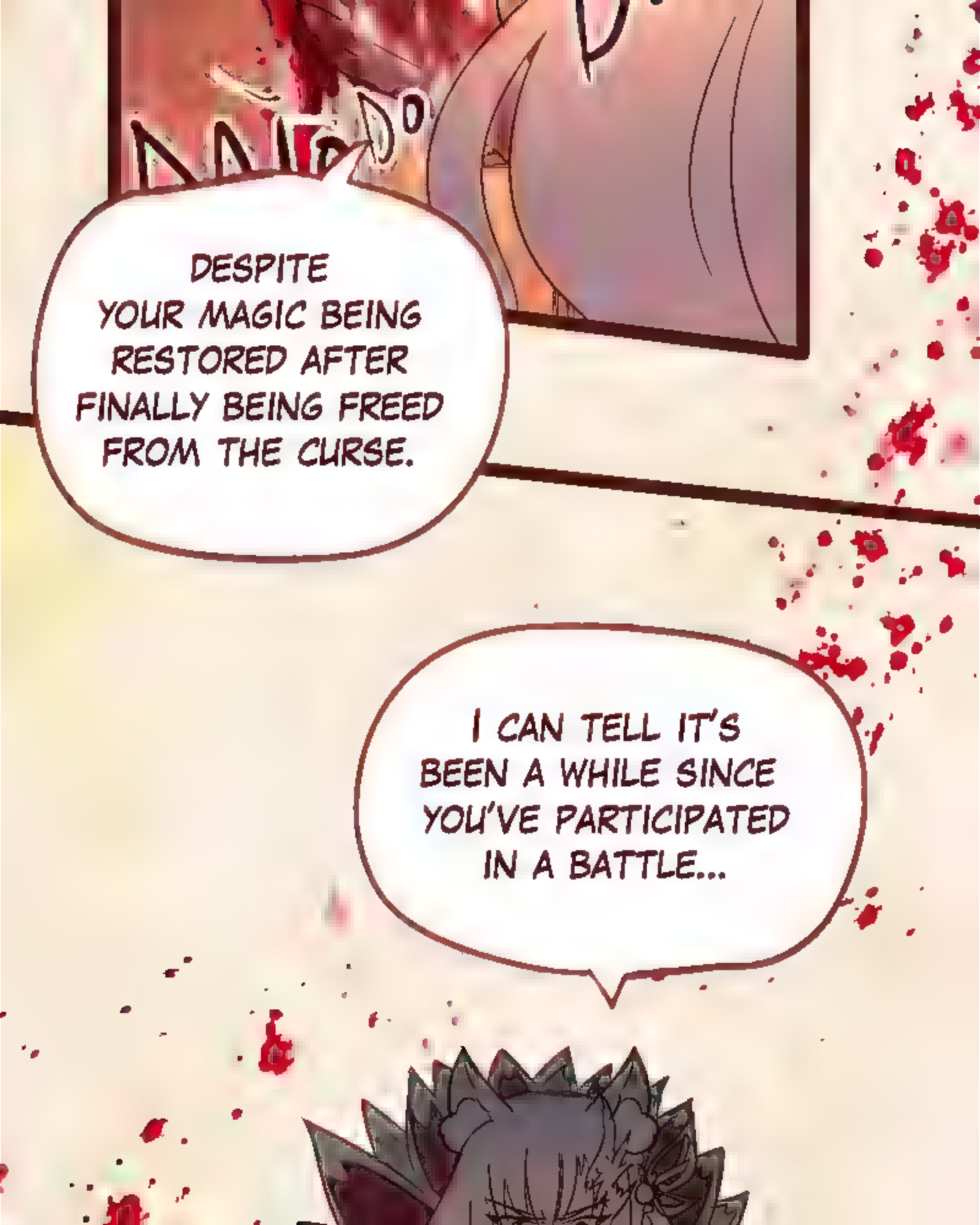
YOU DON'T NEED TO REMIND ME!

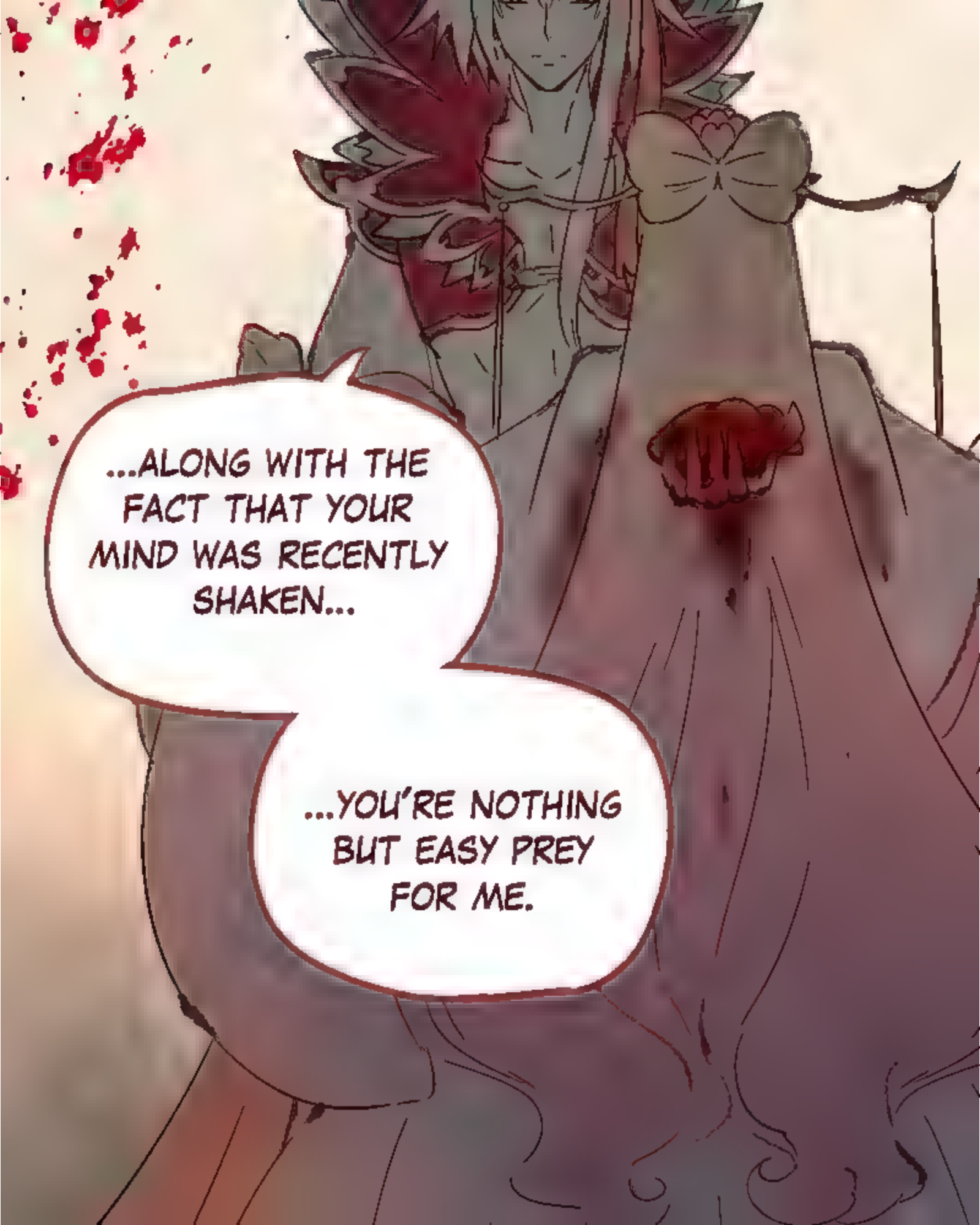
Die

THUNK

HOW DID-
H-HE...

HE'S NOT... A NORMAL CONCUBINE ...
DONDO
HMMPH... WHAT A FEEBLE CASTER YOU ARE..
DONDO


DESPITE YOUR MAGIC BEING RESTORED AFTER FINALLY BEING FREED FROM THE CURSE.
I CAN TELL IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU'VE PARTICIPATED IN A BATTLE...

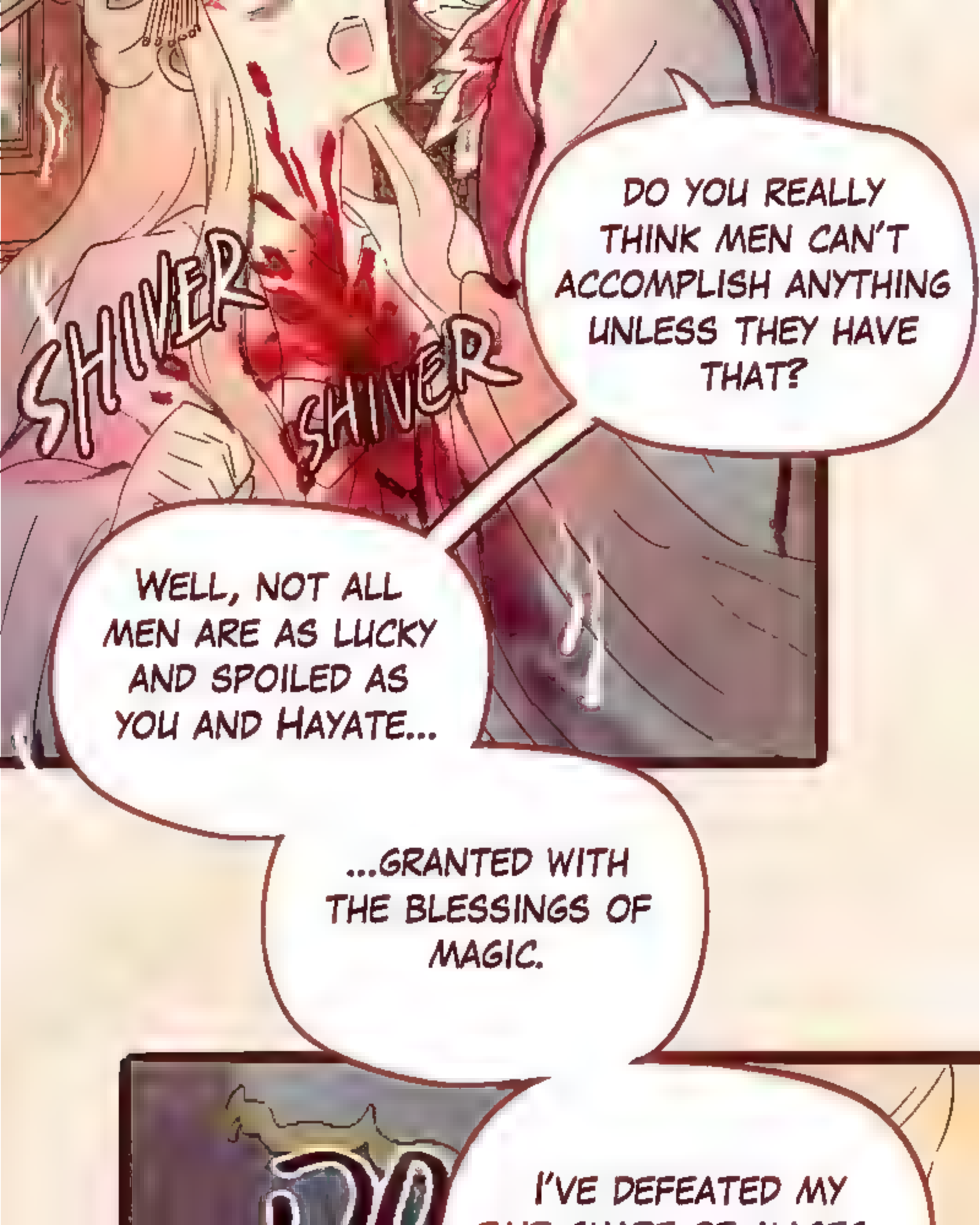

...ALONG WITH THE FACT THAT YOUR MIND WAS RECENTLY SHAKEN...
...YOU'RE NOTHING BUT EASY PREY FOR ME.

PRINCESS!!!
NOOO!!!

YOU FUCKING BASTARD!!!

GIVE THAT BACK TO HER!
--
I WON'T ALLOW YOU DESTROY MY WIFE WITH YOUR DIRTY MAGIC!

MAGIC?
SO YOU THINK YOUR FRAGILE PRINCESS WAS DEFEATED BY MAGIC?


SHIVER
SHIVER
DO YOU REALLY THINK MEN CAN'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING UNLESS THEY HAVE THAT?
WELL, NOT ALL MEN ARE AS LUCKY AND SPOILED AS YOU AND HAYATE...
...GRANTED WITH THE BLESSINGS OF MAGIC.
I'VE DEFEATED MY

FAIR SHARE OF MAGES...
BY TRAINING AND
HONING MY BODY.
DON
IT WAS STRENGTH
I ACQUIRED TO
SURVIVE...

AND THROUGH IT'S
REPEATED USE...

CRASH

...I ENSURE THE
PROTECTION OF MY
DEAREST ONE.

CORONA

This is the cruelty of Phantom Paradise.

GRUDGE OR NO GRUDGE,
THE WEAK...
ARE EATEN UP BY THE STRONG.

MAYBE IN A FUTURE
INCARNATION OF YOURS,
I WON'T HAVE TO CHOOSE...

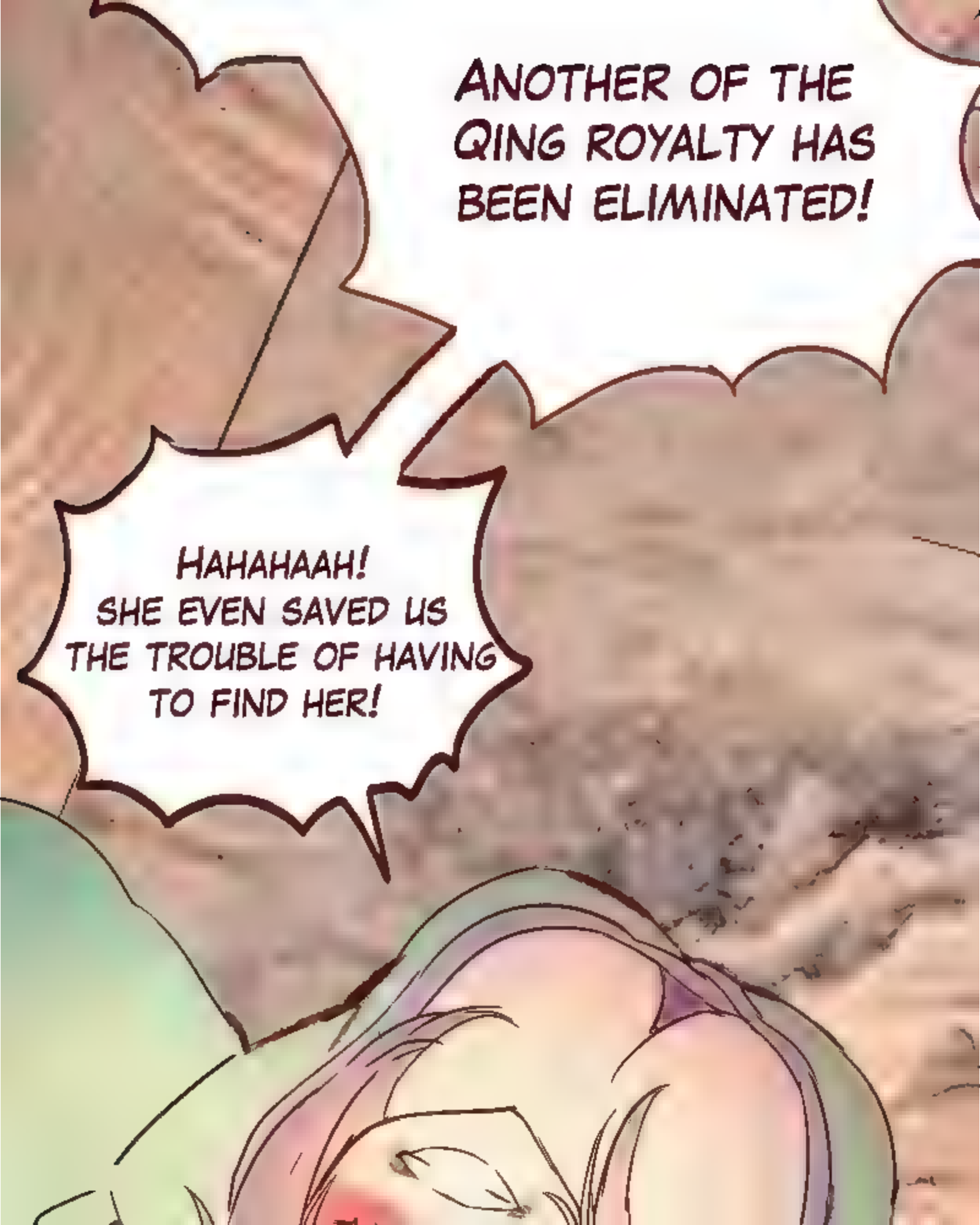
...BETWEEN
YOUR LIFE...

...AND HIS.

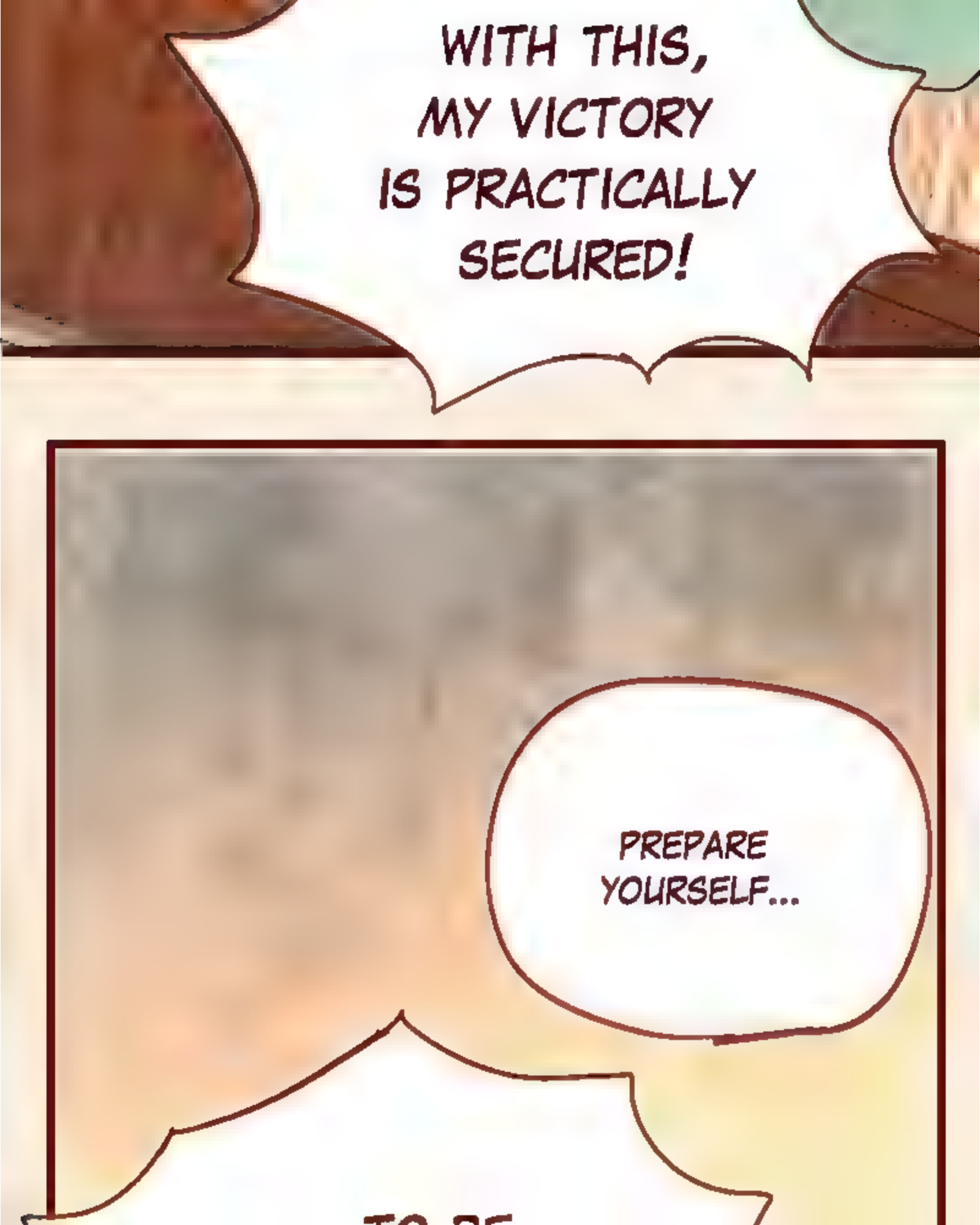
HEHE...
HEHEHEHE!

HAHAHAHA!!
AHAHAHAHAHA!!!

MAGNIFICENT!


ANOTHER OF THE QING ROYALTY HAS BEEN ELIMINATED!
HAHAHAAH! SHE EVEN SAVED US THE TROUBLE OF HAVING TO FIND HER!

YU-MIN AISINGIORO !!!
ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR ALLIES IS DEAD...

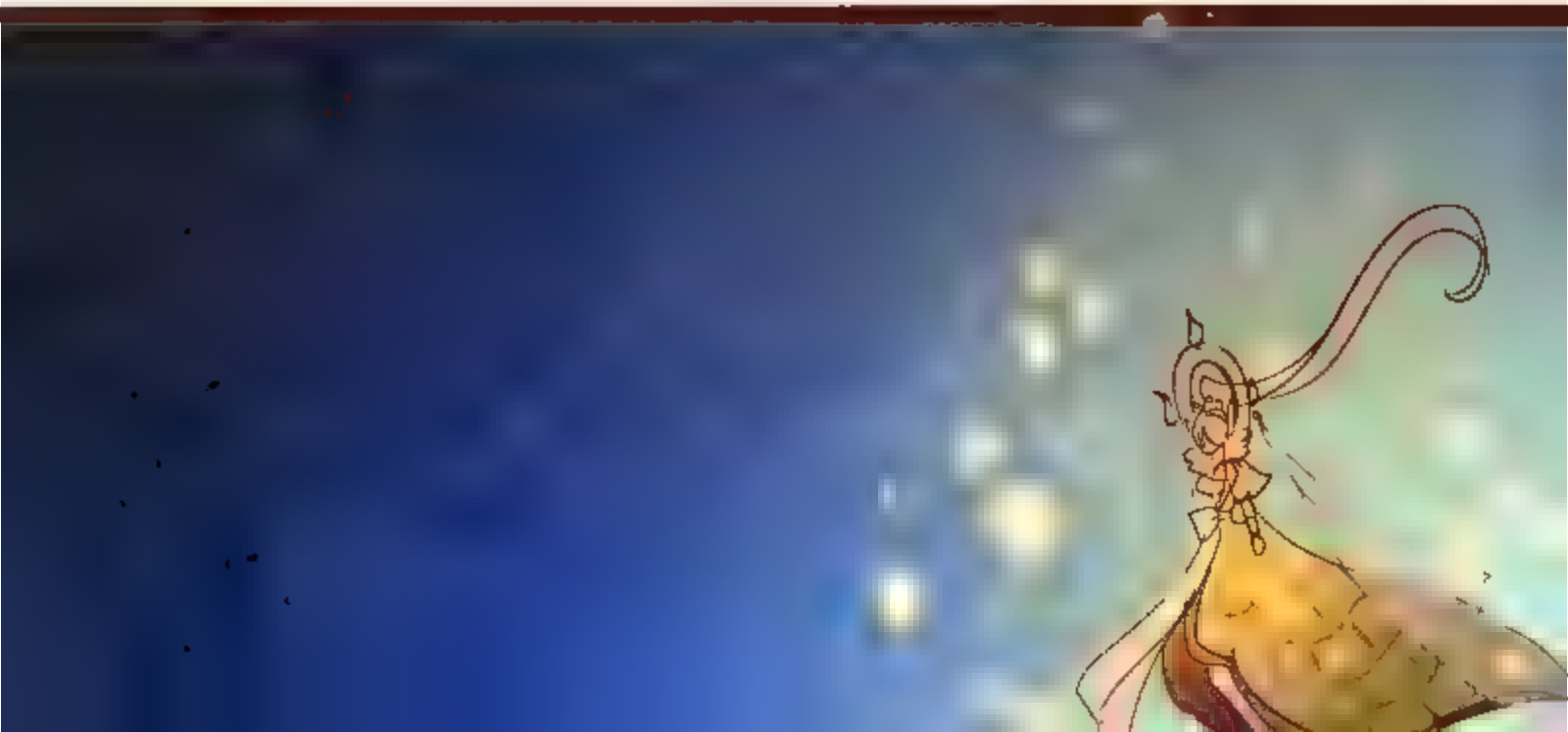

WITH THIS,
MY VICTORY
IS PRACTICALLY
SECURED!
PREPARE
YOURSELF...

...TO BE AMBUSHED BY MY REBELLION ARMY!

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO DIE AND ROT IN THE LIVING

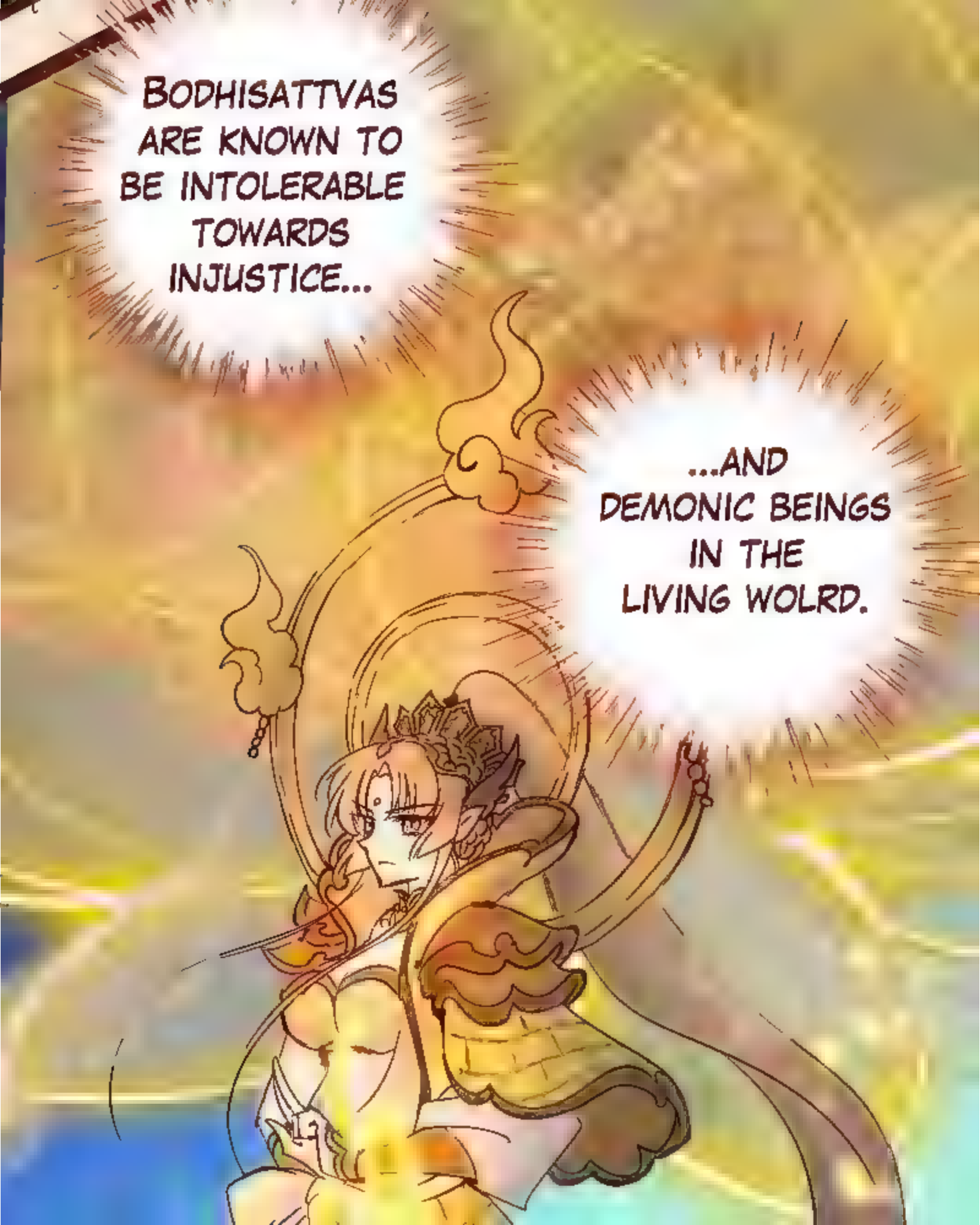
WORLD!

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE-
RYUSAK!!!



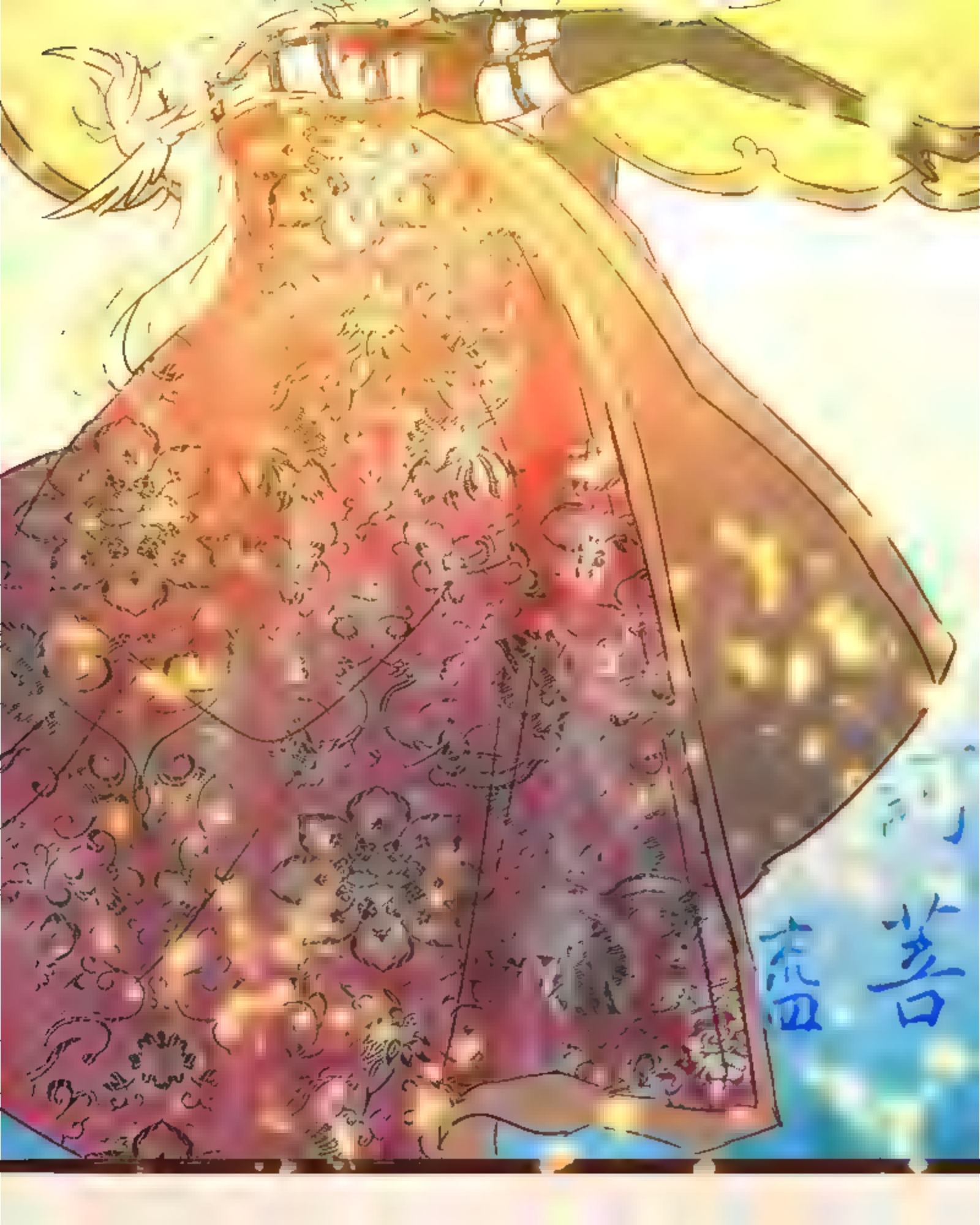
LUCIUS!!

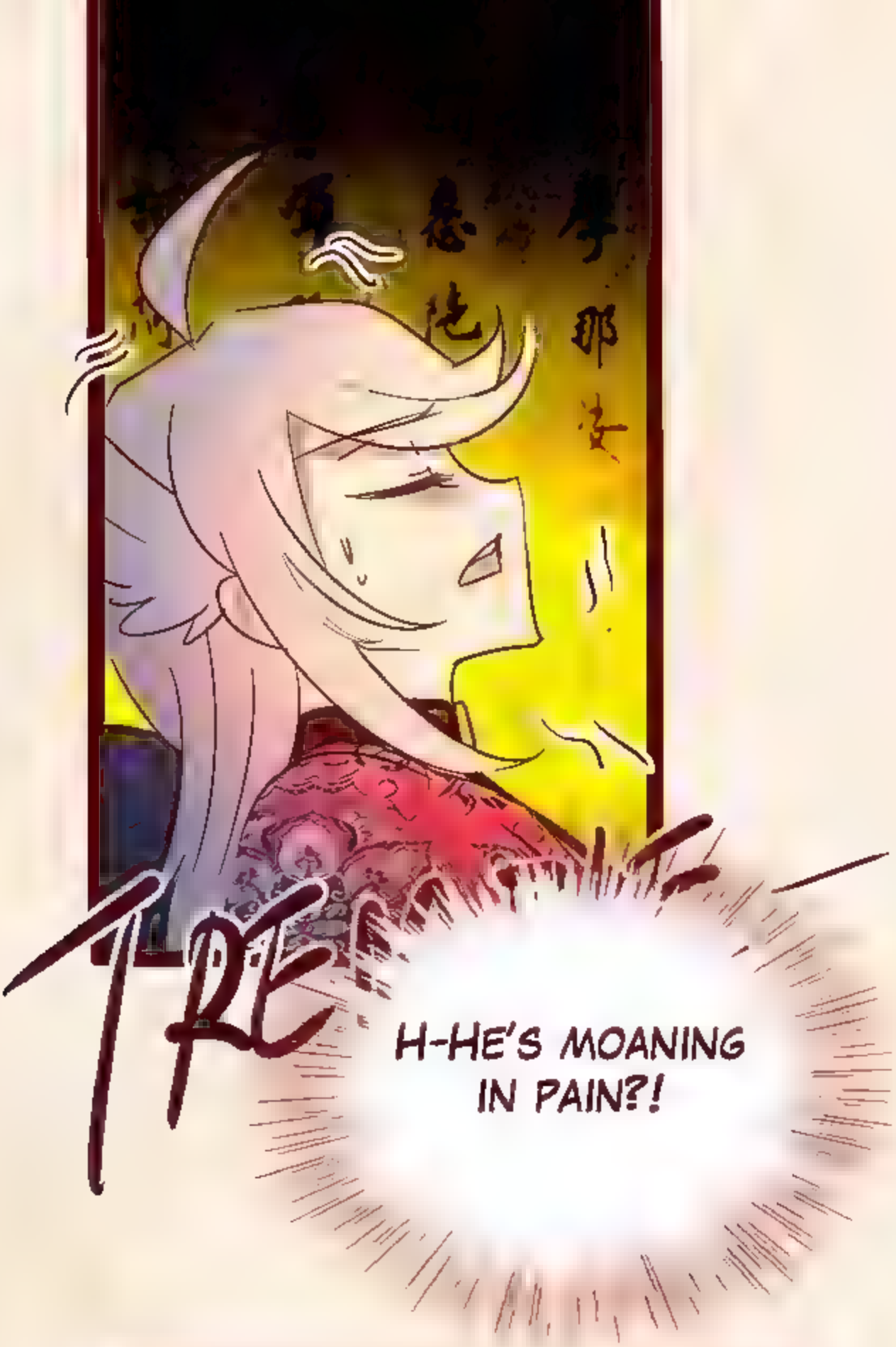
HE'S STILL LOCKED INSIDE DI-ZANG BODHISATTVA'S SEAL.


BODHISATTVAS ARE KNOWN TO BE INTOLERABLE TOWARDS INJUSTICE...
...AND DEMONIC BEINGS IN THE LIVING WOLRD.

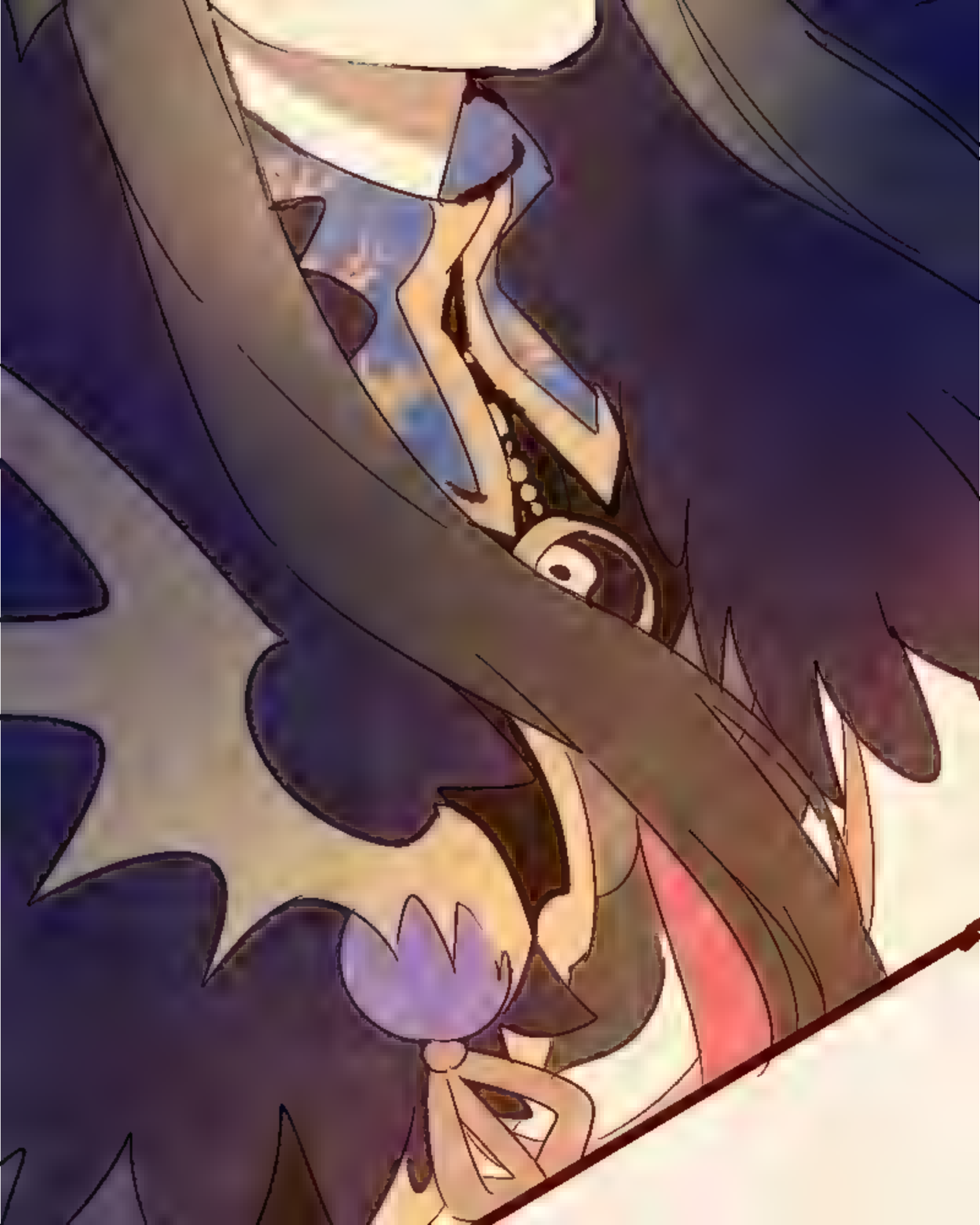
LUCIUS FALLS RIGHT INTO THAT CATEGORY...
IS SHE GOING TO EXPEL HIM AS WELL?!

薩耳三具逢卢
婆边
唵

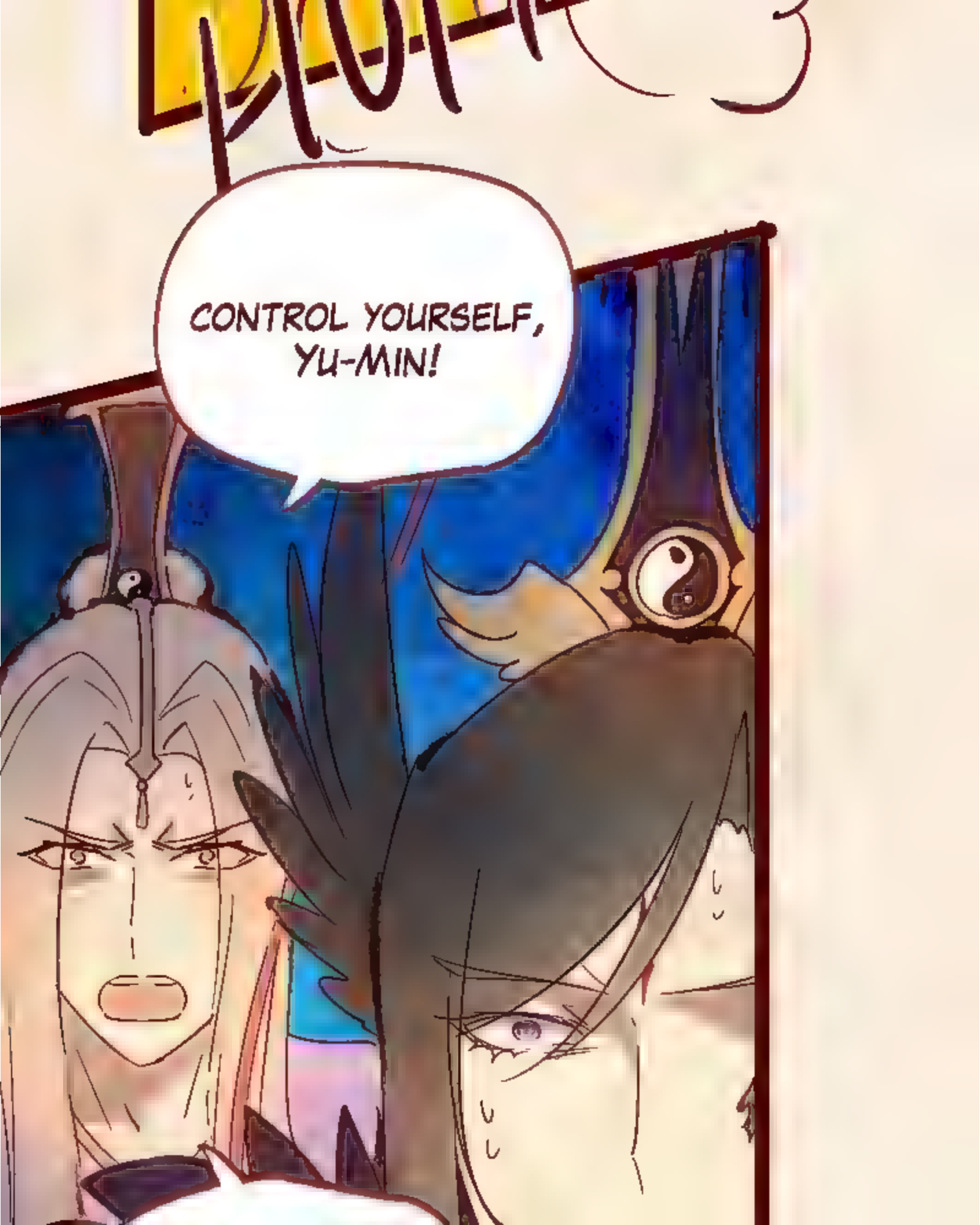

若
四


H-HE'S MOANING IN PAIN?!

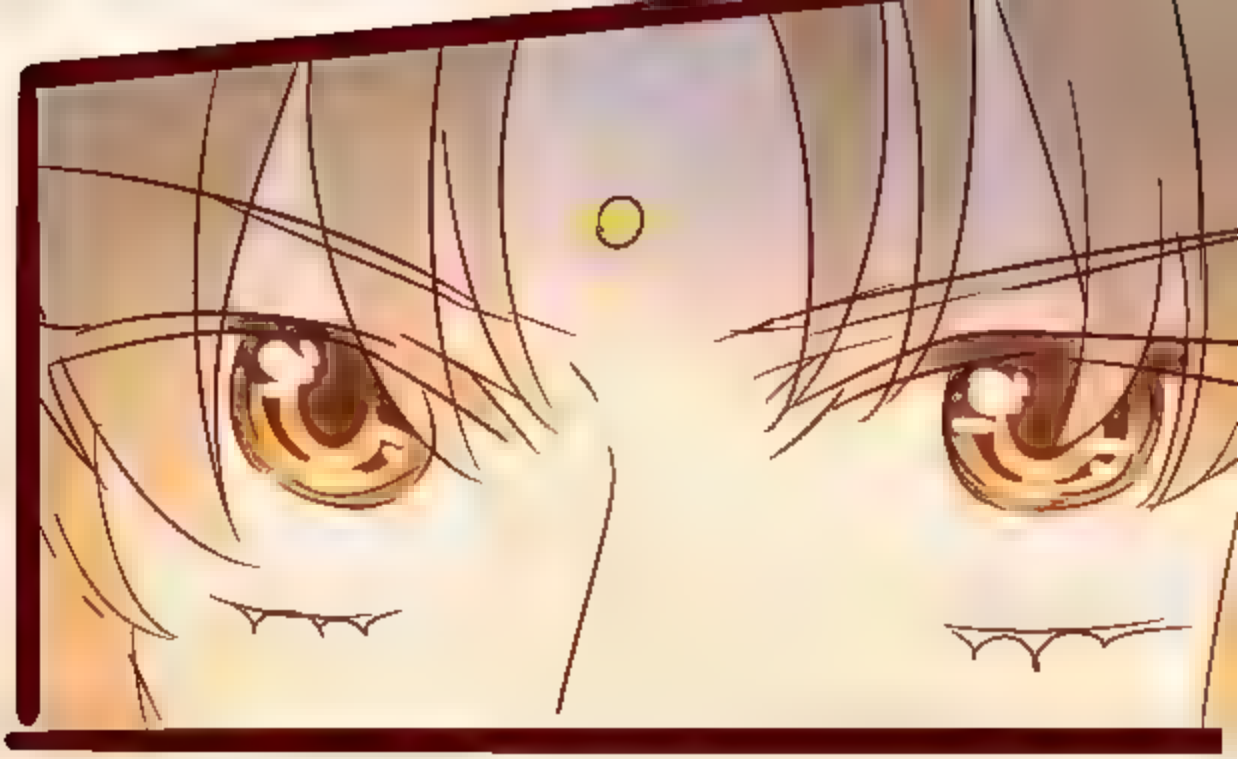
WHAT'S SHE DOING TO HIM ?!

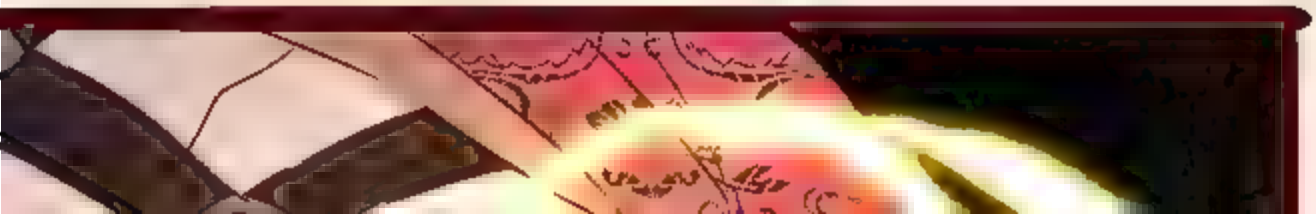


HUFF
HUFF


CONTROL YOURSELF, YU-MIN!

DO NOT DISRESPECT THE DIVINE BODHISATTVA!





THE HUMAN SOULS INSIDE LUCIUS' WOUND CAUSED BY MADONNA...

HAVE BEEN

...HAVE BEEN PURIFIED AND SENT AWAY UNDER MY INFLUENCE...
...AS WELL AS THE SOULS HE DEVOURED IN THE PAST WHENEVER HE LOST CONTROL.

LUCIUS IS SAFE FOR NOW.
BUT THE DANGER

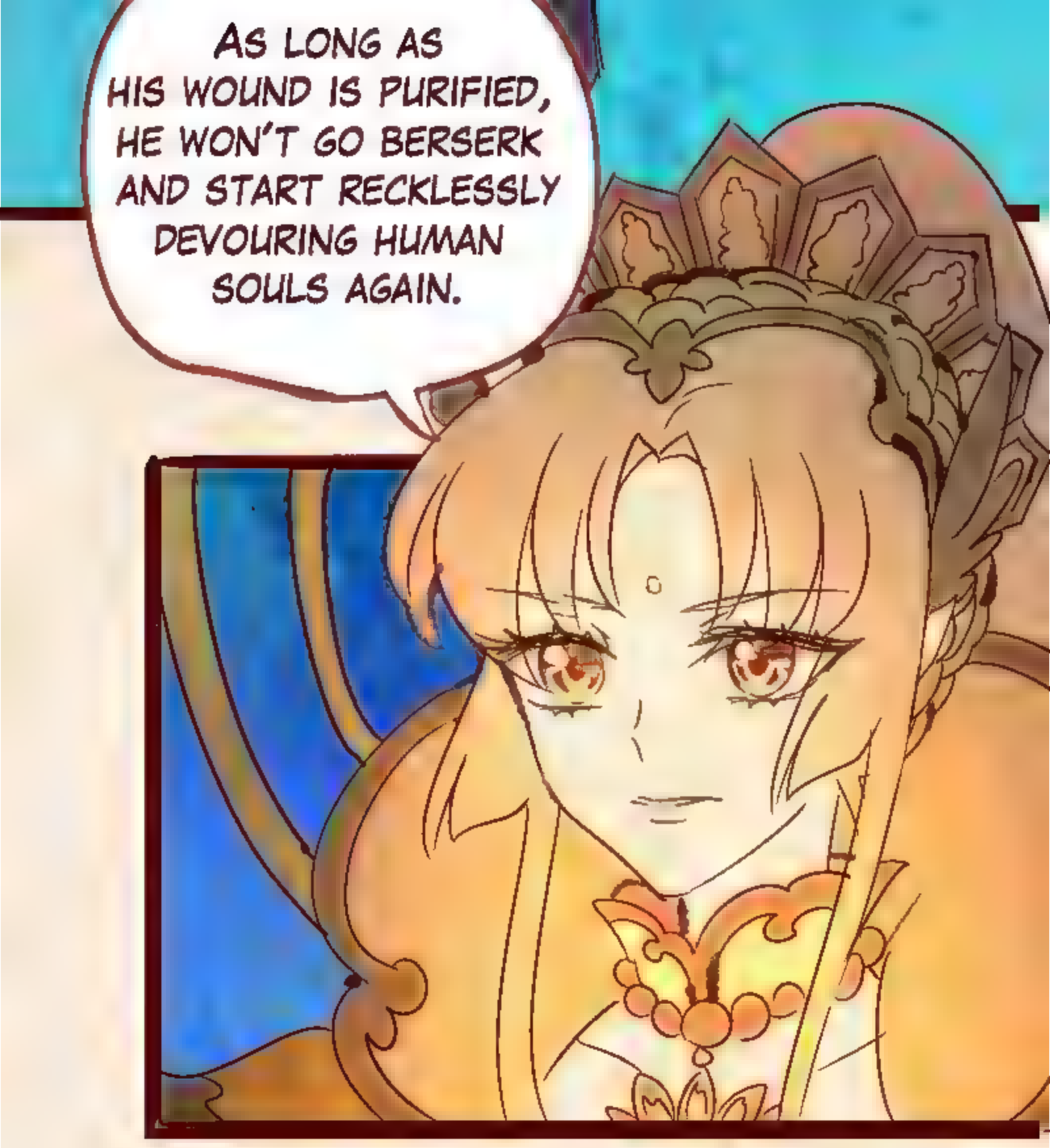
ISN'T OVER. HIS WOUND IS STILL CORROSIVE.

IT MUST BE FURTHER PURIFIED BEFORE IT WORSENS AND CONSUMES HIM COMPLETELY.

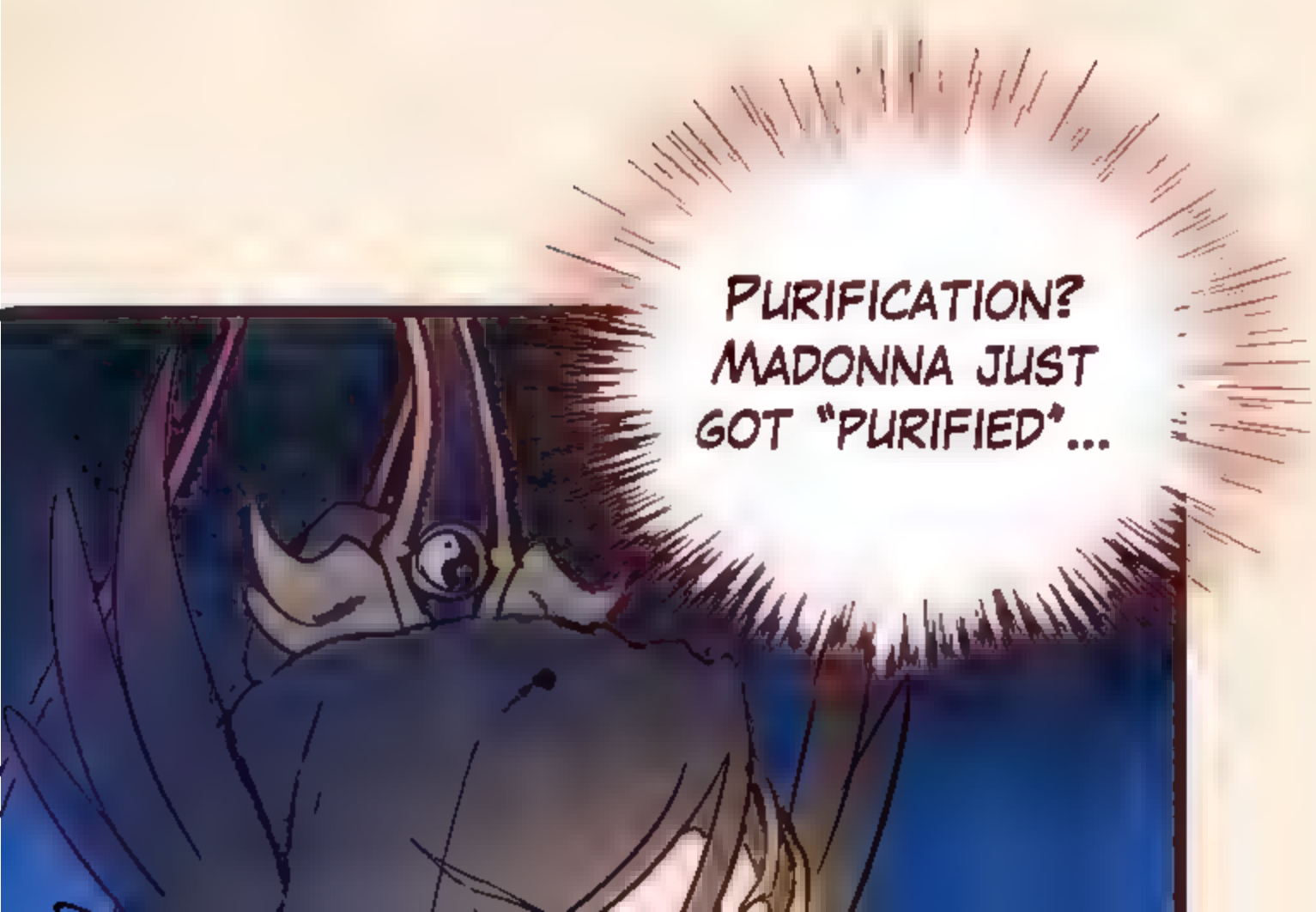
H..HOW CAN HE BE TREATED?

WORRY NOT,
I'VE SET UP A HEALING BATH FOR HIM INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN PALACE.
WHAT THE ...

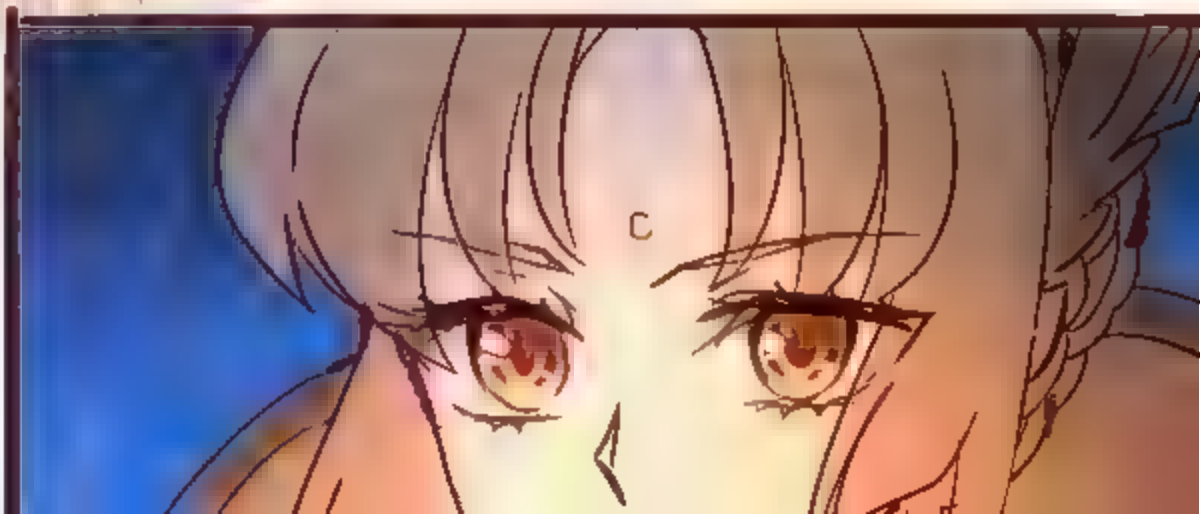
HIS BODY IS FREEZING COLD...
I ANTICIPATED SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN...


AS LONG AS HIS WOUND IS PURIFIED, HE WON'T GO BERSERK AND START RECKLESSLY DEVOURING HUMAN SOULS AGAIN.

COME! LET'S HEAD TO THE PALACE.


PURIFICATION? MADONNA JUST GOT "PURIFIED"...

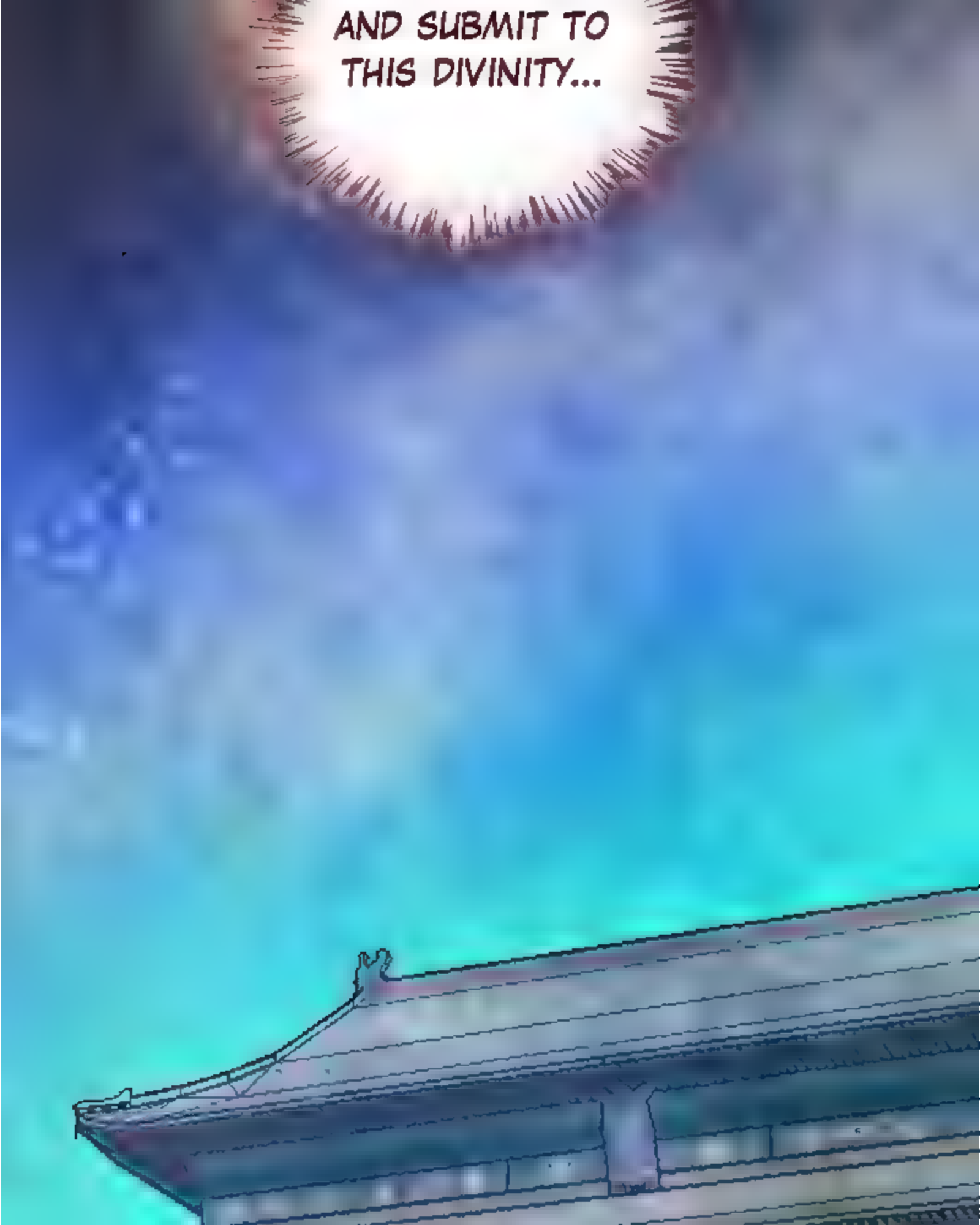
IS THAT HER TERM FOR EXECUTION?



SHE'S REALLY INTIMIDATING ...

IT'S AS IF...
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING BUT TO OBEY...

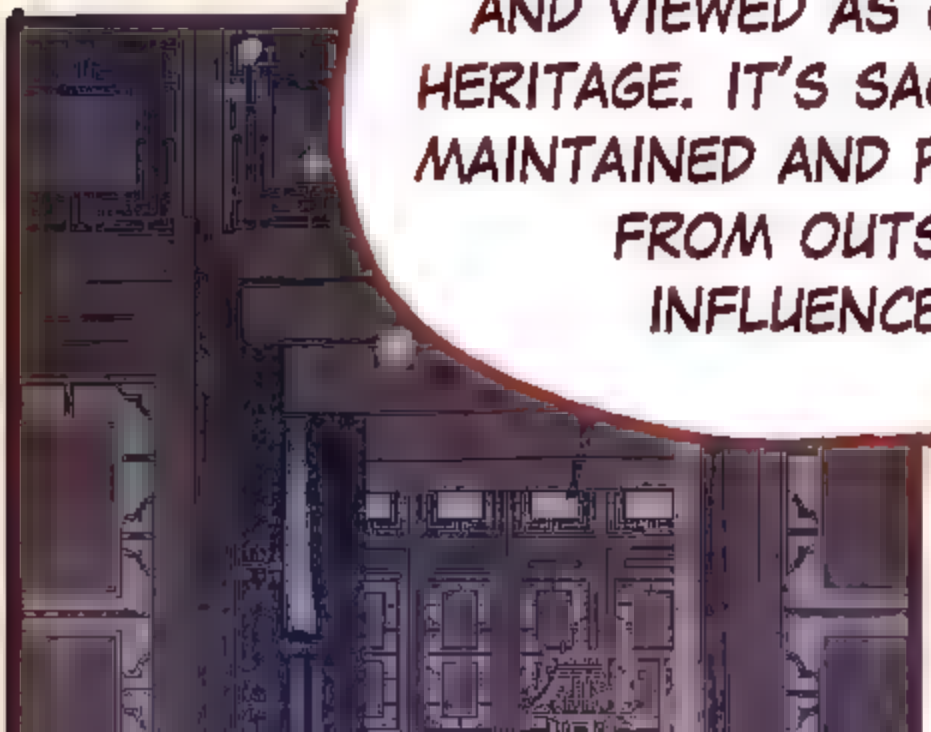
AND SUBMIT TO
THIS DIVINITY...



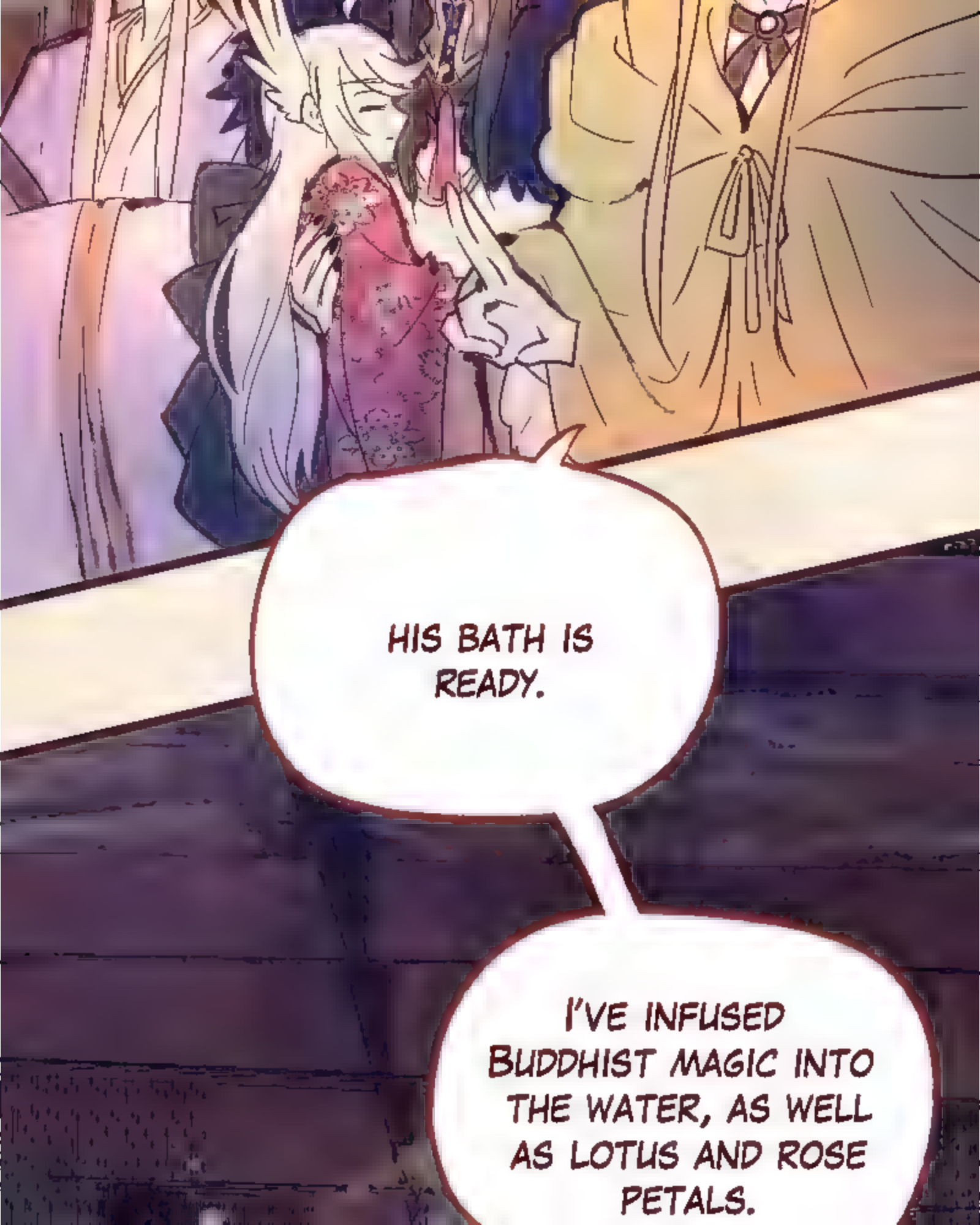
THIS IS THE HOLY TEMPLE BUILT INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN PALACE-

BUILT FOR ROYALTIES TO WORSHIP BUDDHAS AND DEITIES.

FOR GENERATIONS, IT'S BEEN PROTECTED AND VIEWED AS CULTURAL HERITAGE. IT'S SACREDNESS, MAINTAINED AND PROTECTED FROM OUTSIDE INFLUENCES.

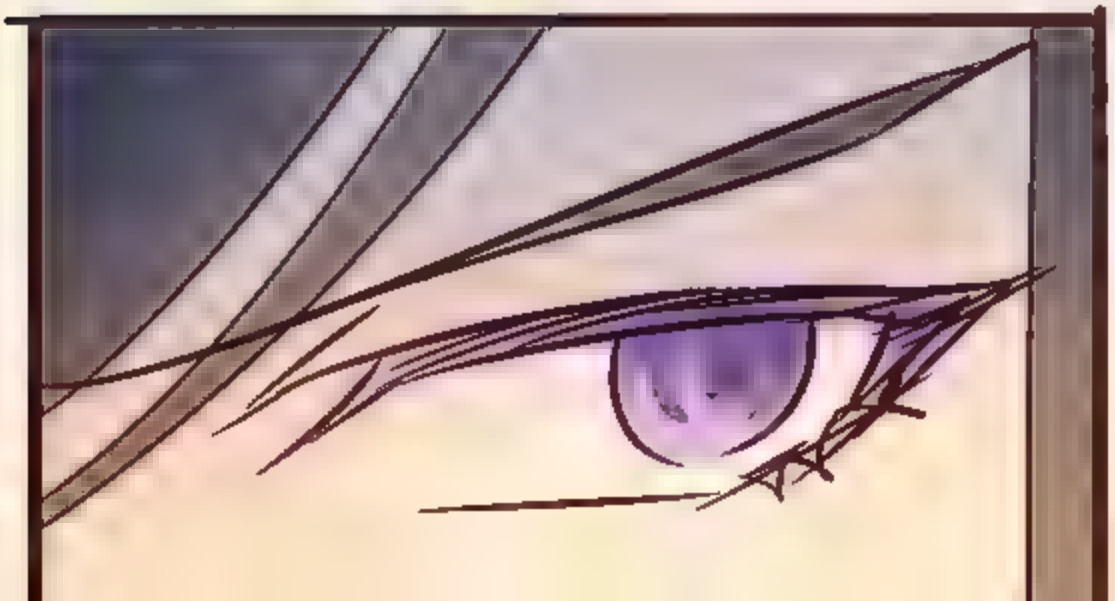


THIS MAKES IT THE MOST IDEAL PLACE NEARBY TO PRACTICE PURIFICATION RITUALS.


HIS BATH IS READY.
I'VE INFUSED BUDDHIST MAGIC INTO THE WATER, AS WELL AS LOTUS AND ROSE PETALS.

PLACE LUCIUS IN THE BATH OVERNIGHT...

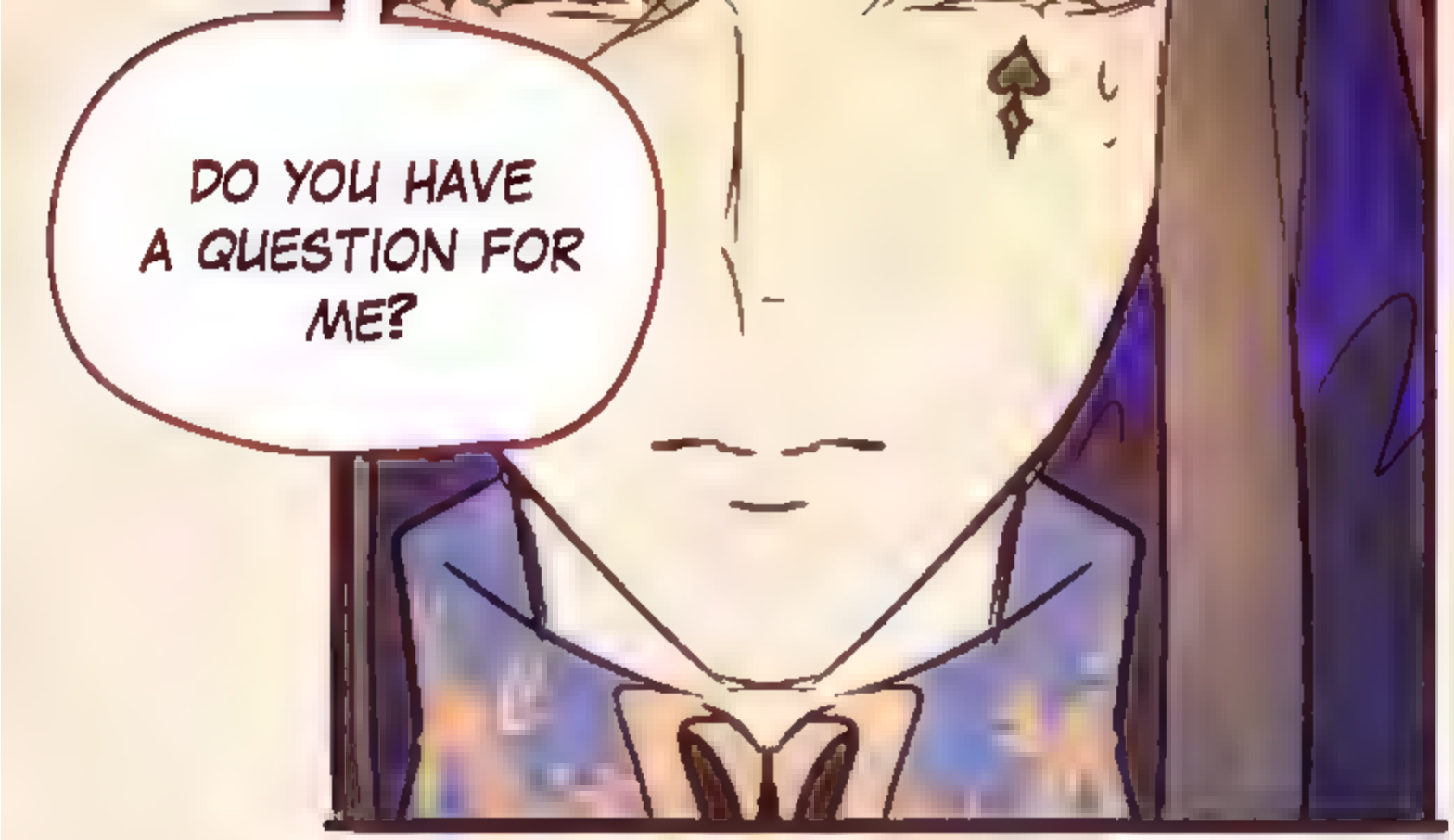
..AND ALL
THE LEFT OVER
CURSES AND DEMONS
REMAINING
WILL BE PURIFIED
BY MORNING.



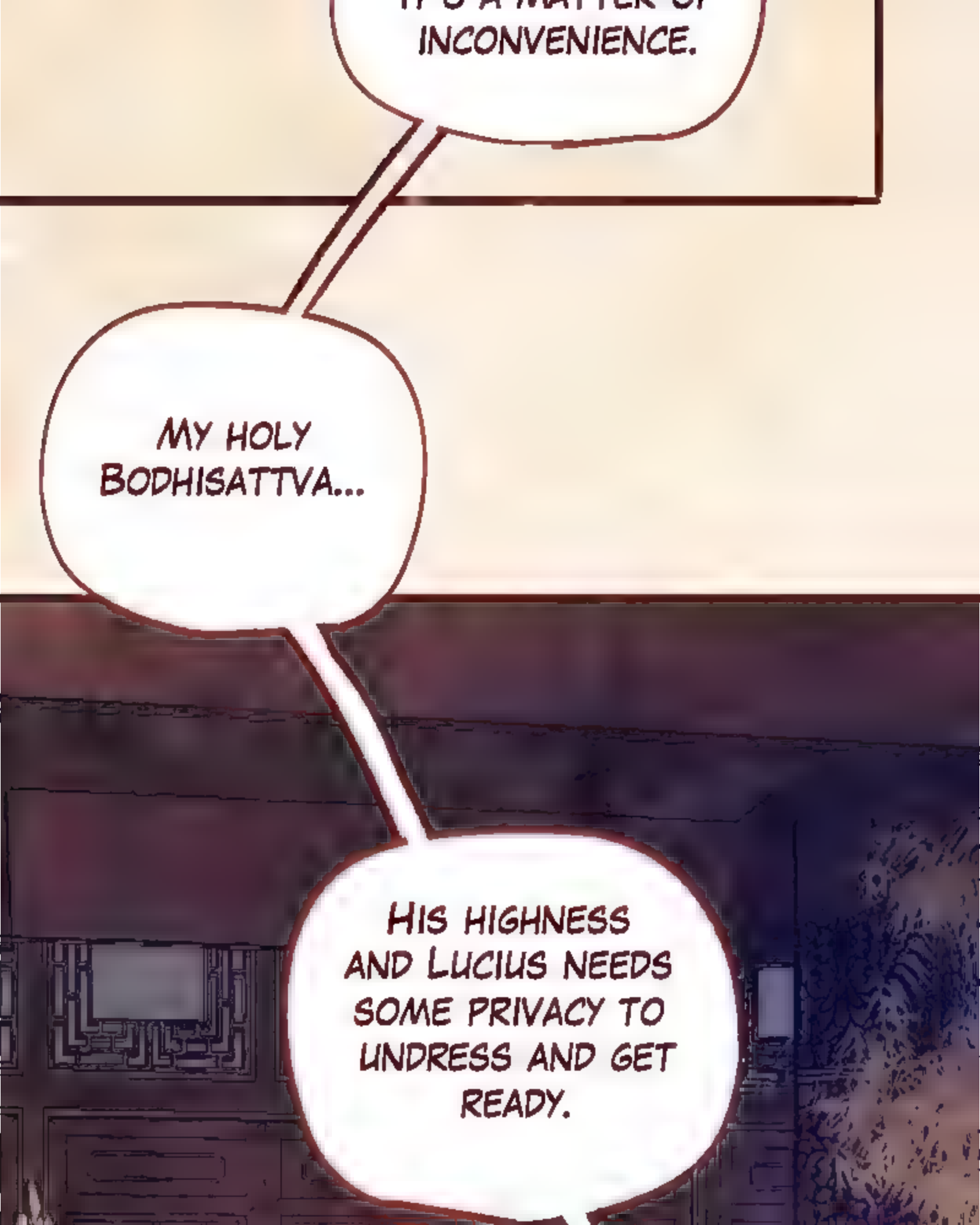
ALL THE DEMONS
...

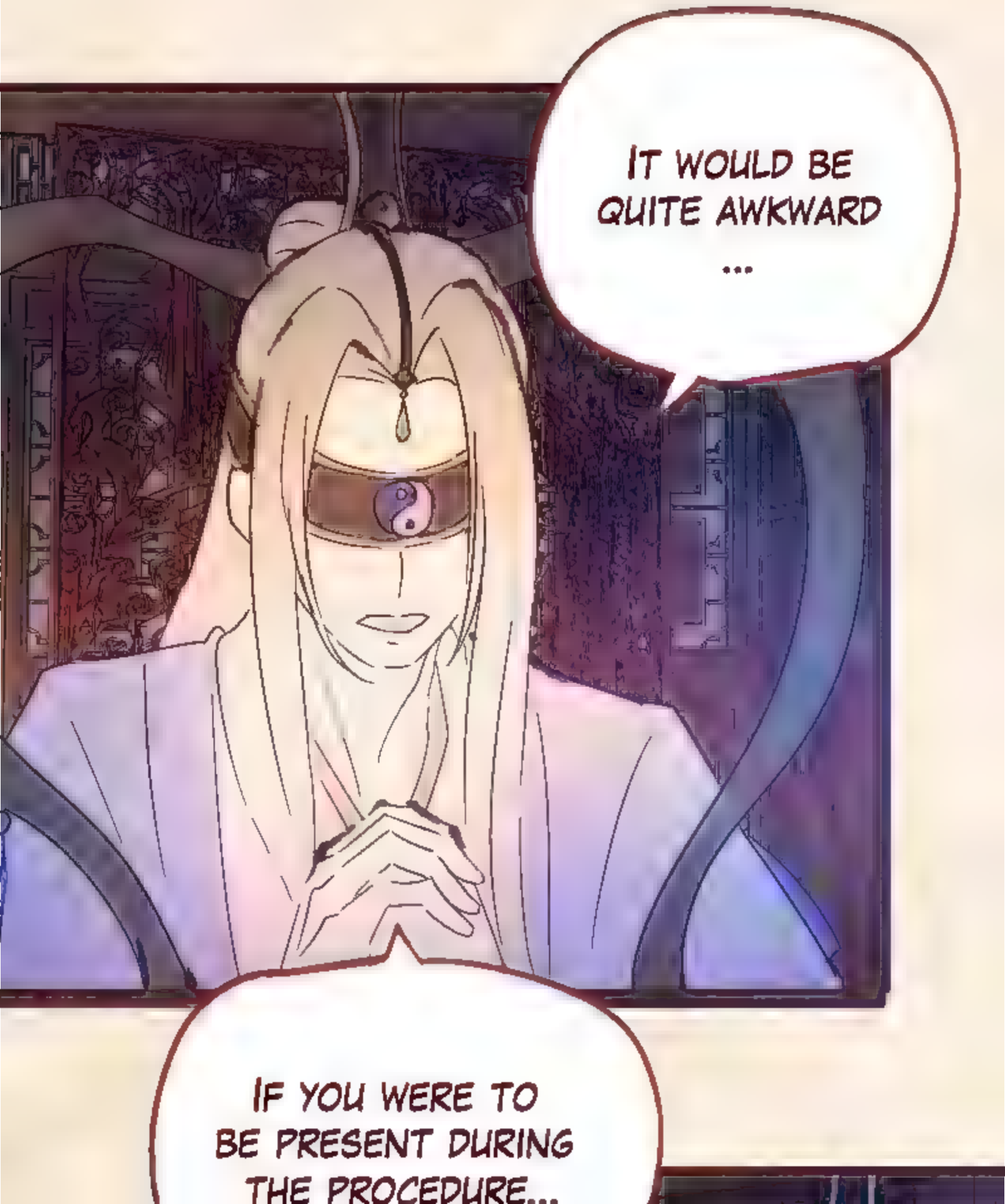
PURIFIED...

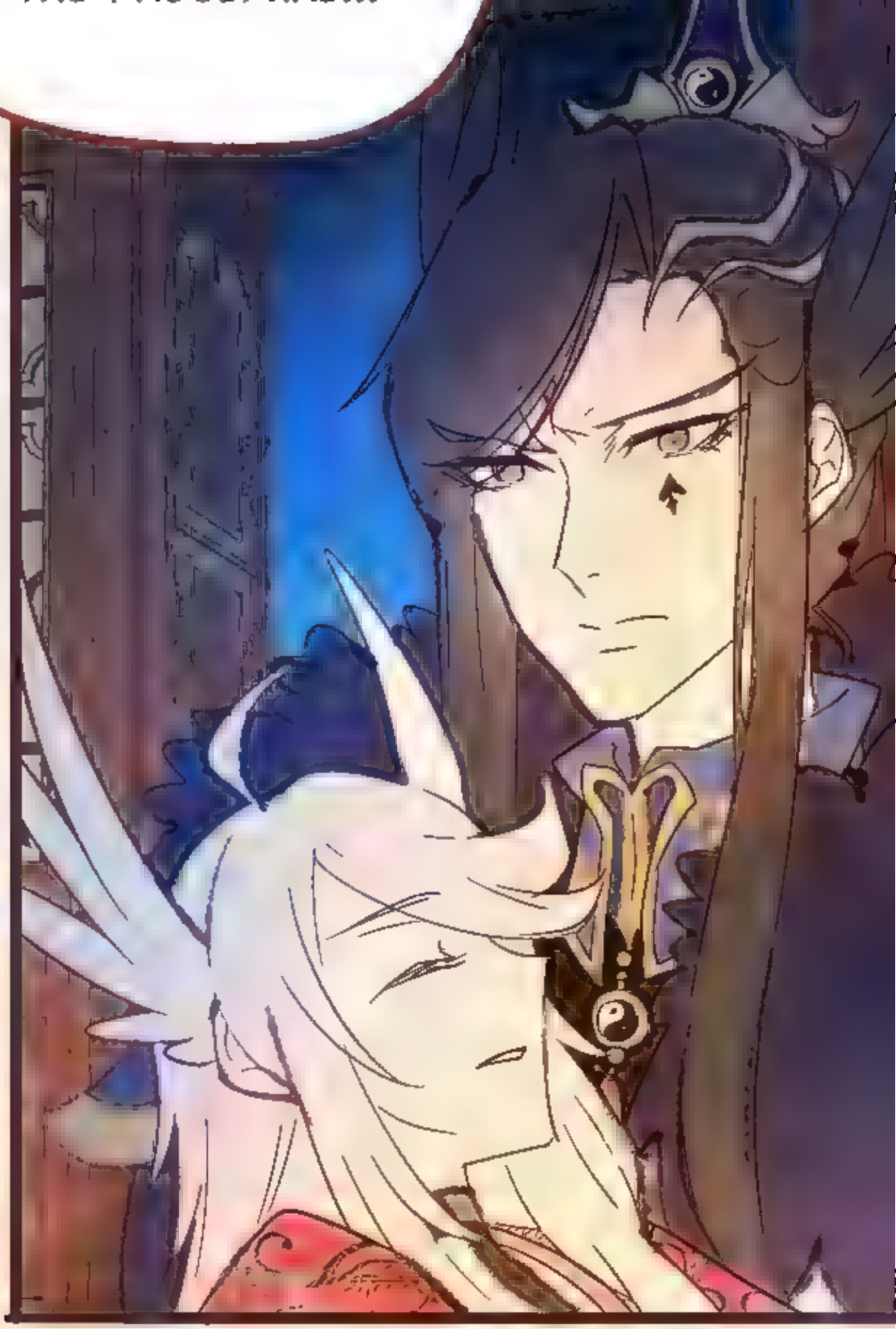
HMM?


DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR ME?

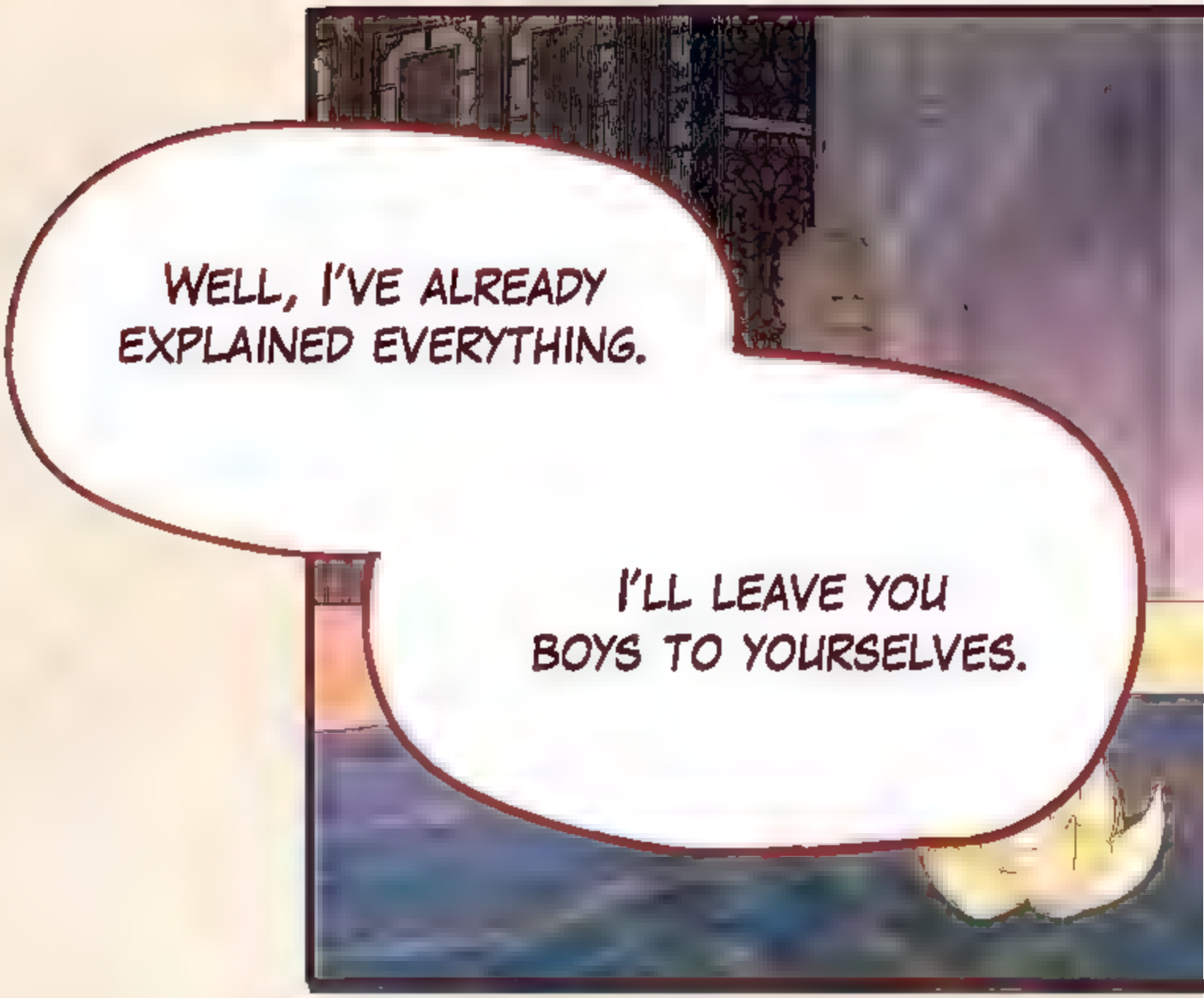
I BELIEVE...


INCONVENIENCE.
MY HOLY BODHISATTVA...
HIS HIGHNESS AND LUCIUS NEEDS SOME PRIVACY TO UNDRESS AND GET READY.


It would be quite awkward ...
If you were to be present during the procedure...

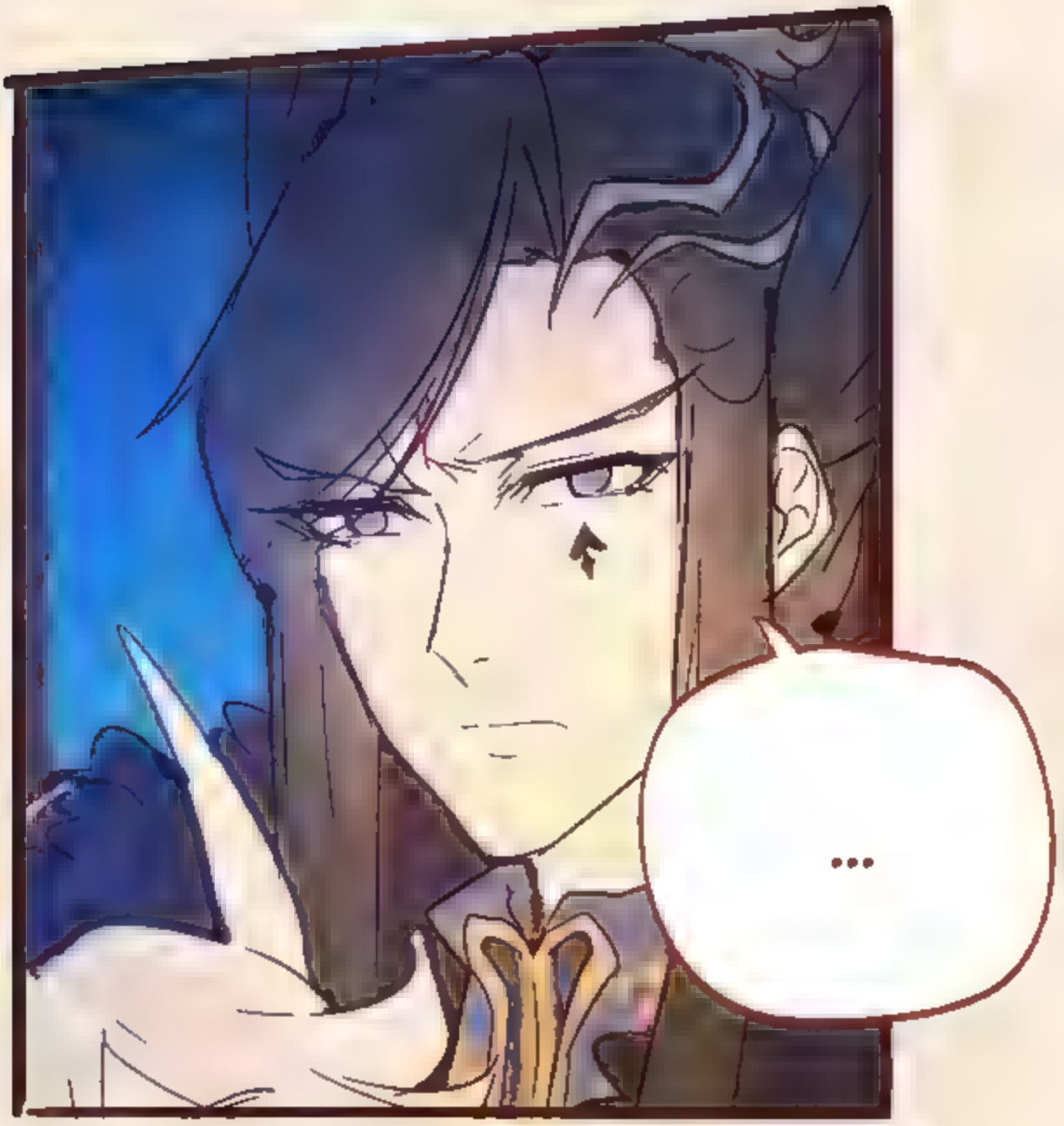


AH,
I APOLOGIZE.

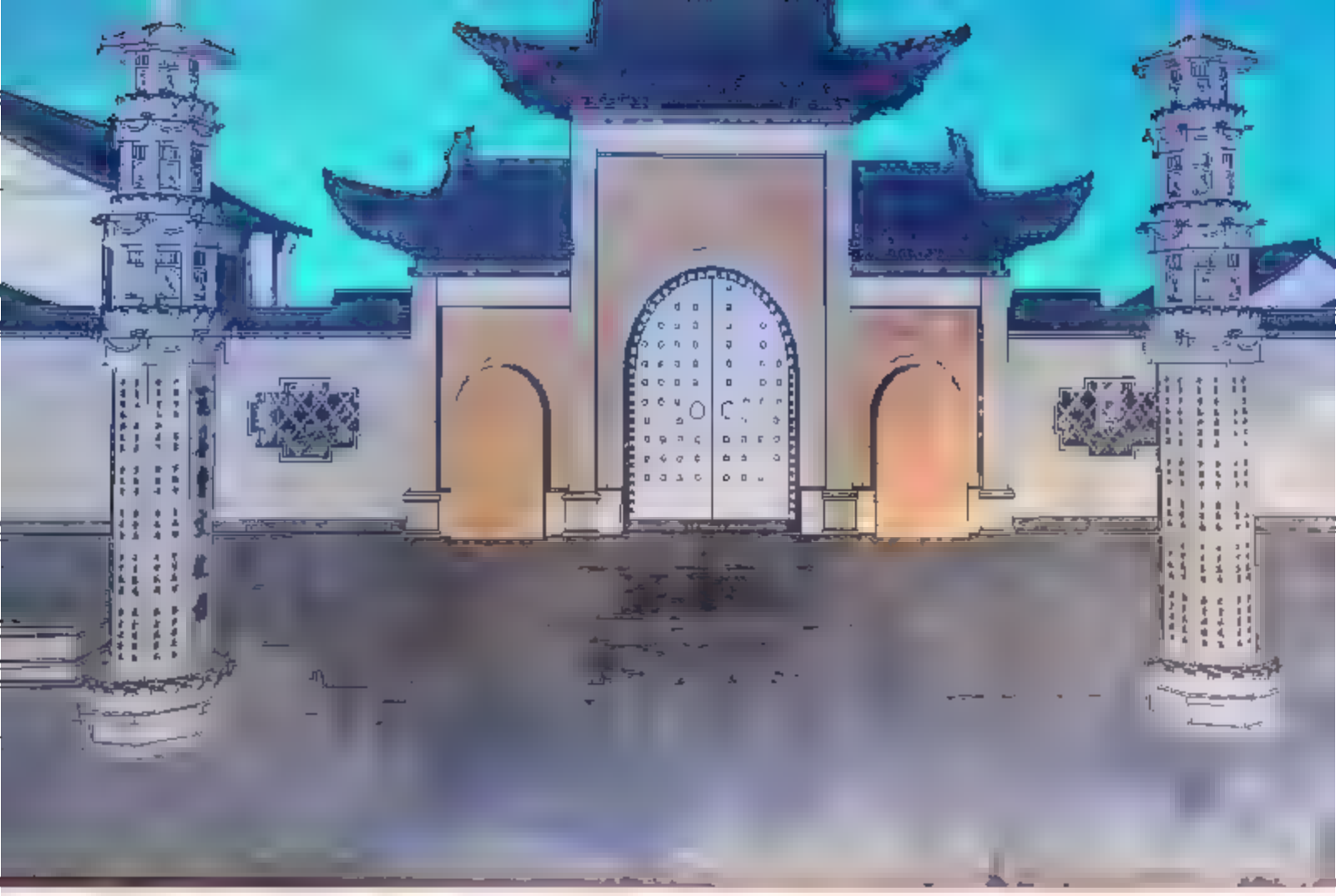

WELL, I'VE ALREADY EXPLAINED EVERYTHING.
I'LL LEAVE YOU BOYS TO YOURSELVES.

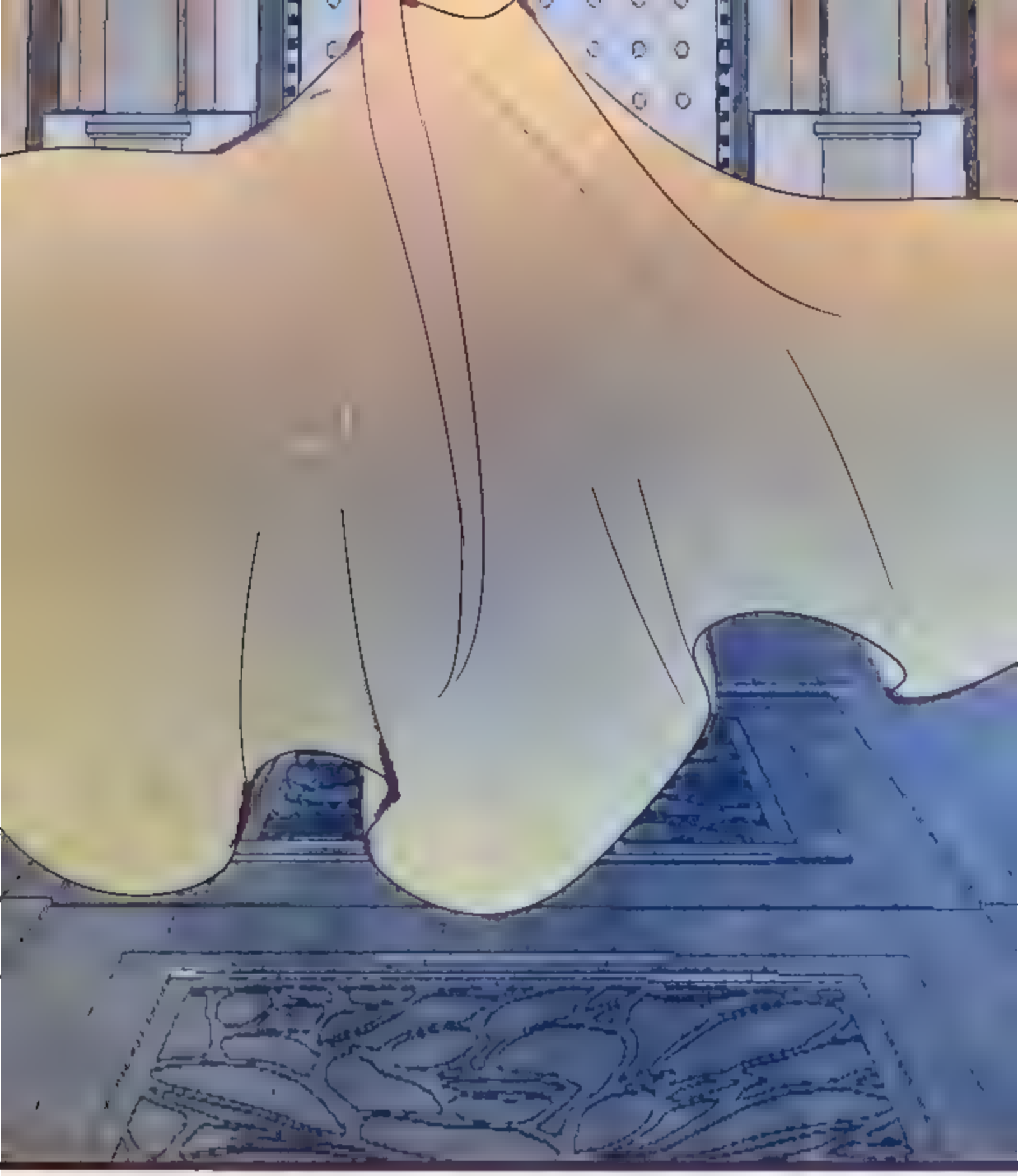
THE EAST TEMPLE
TO CONDUCT MY OWN
PRAYERS AND TO REPORT
EVERYTHING TO THE
HIGHER BUDDHAS.

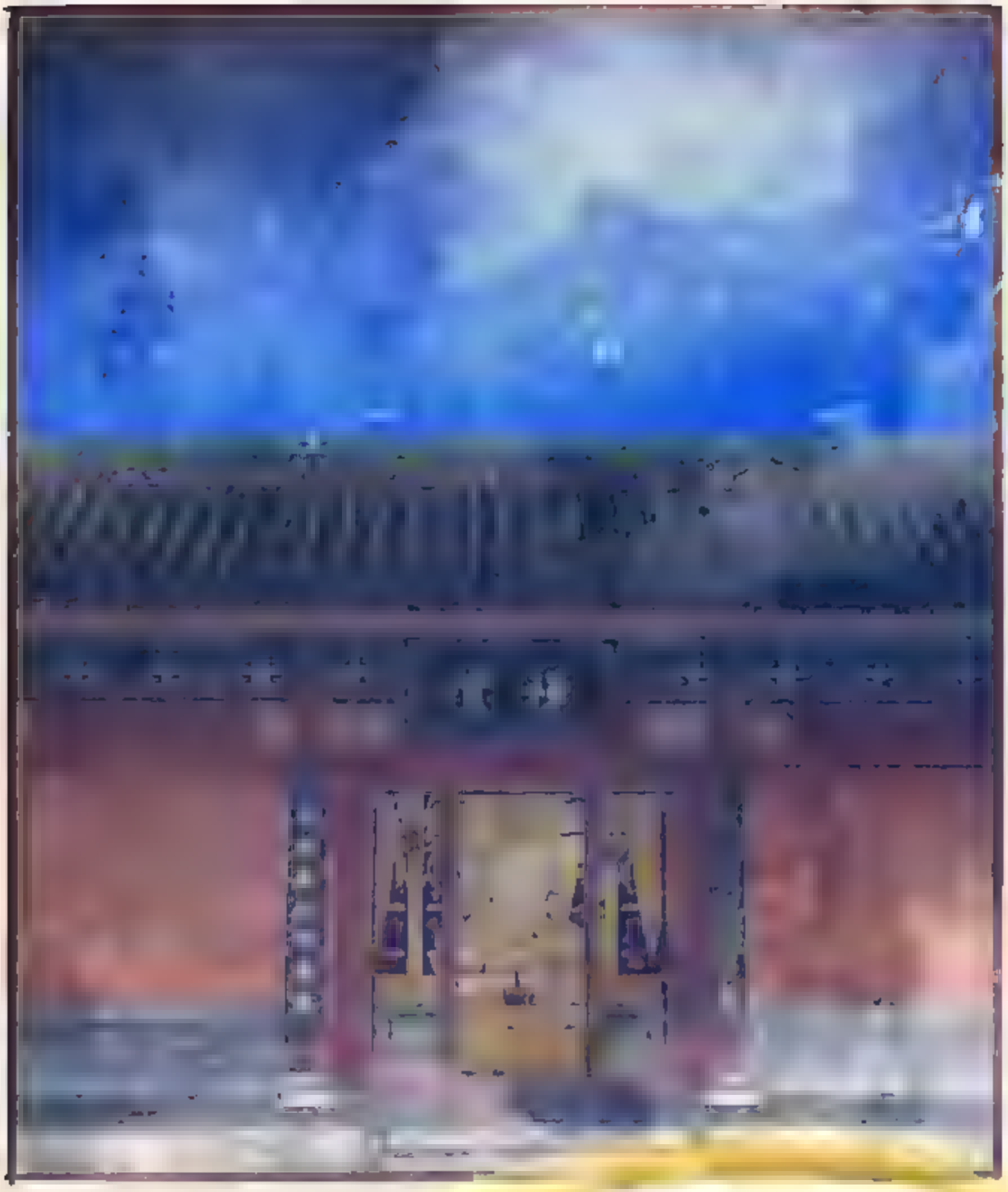
FEEL FREE TO VISIT ME IF YOU NEED ANY HELP.



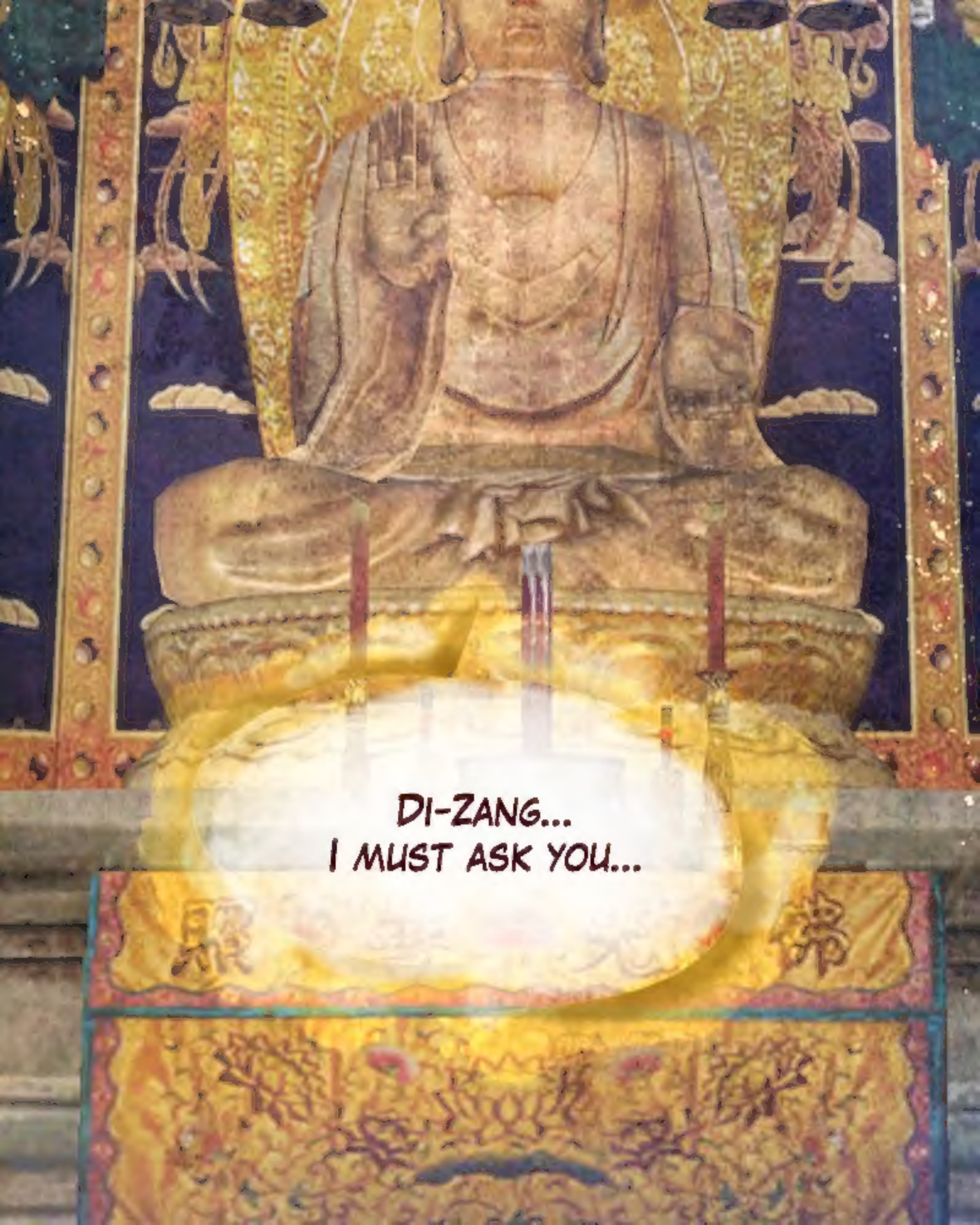
THANK YOU.



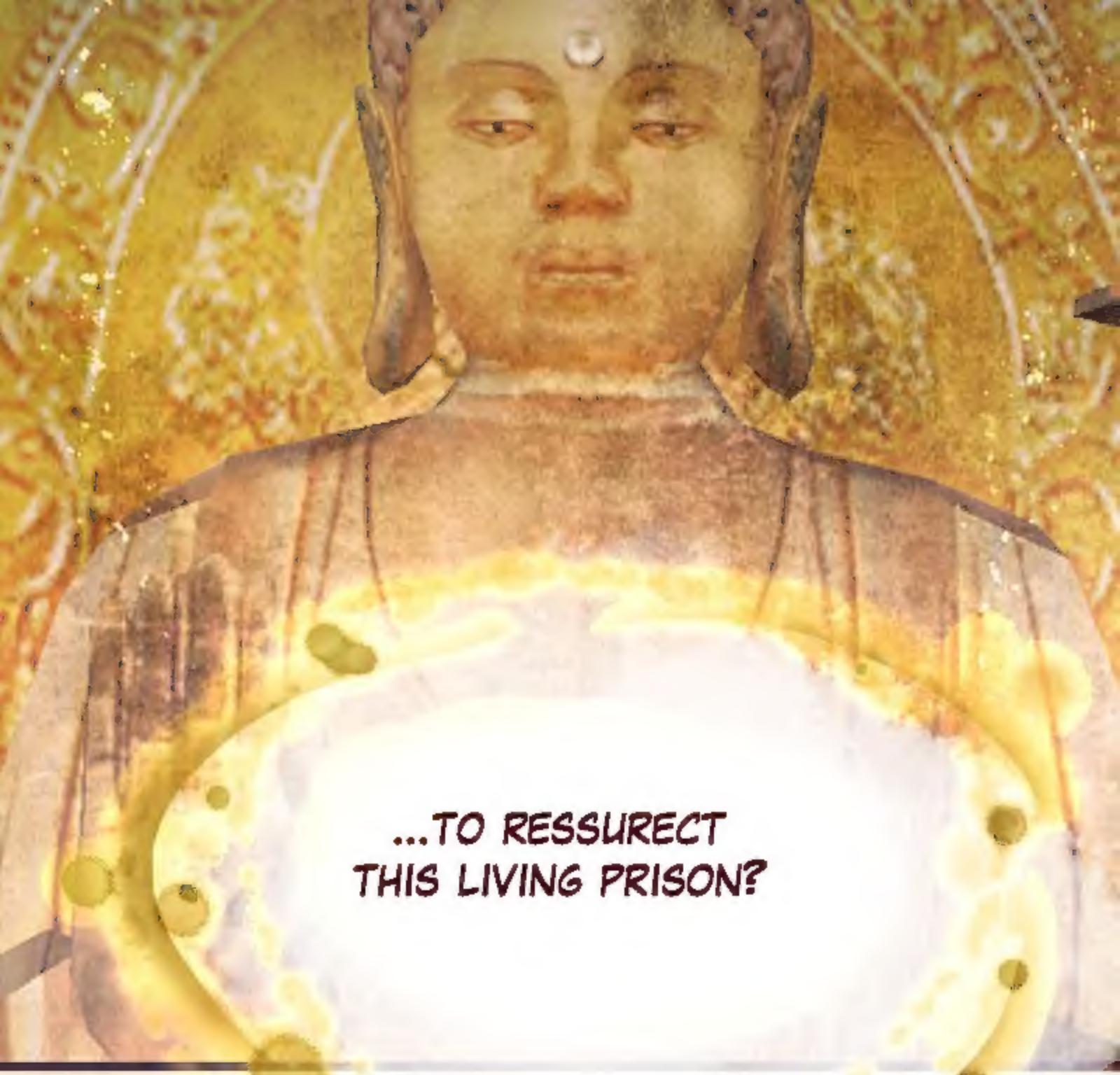




I CAN HEAR YOUR TEARS
DRIPPING FROM AFAR.
YOUR FRUSTRATION,
AS STRONG AS A
THUNDER STORM.


DI-ZANG...
I MUST ASK YOU...

IS IT REALLY
WORTH IT
TO SACRIFICE THIS
MUCH...


...TO RESSURECT
THIS LIVING PRISON?

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